

'Countries resorting to punitive measures should remember their nationals'

Iraq threatens Westerners in sanctions fight

From Andrew McEwen in London and Martin Fletcher in Washington

PRESIDENT Saddam Hussein yesterday threatened the well-being of British, American and other Western citizens in Kuwait in an attempt to thwart economic sanctions aimed at forcing Iraqi troops to withdraw from the Gulf state.

He also appeared to quash hopes of an early release of the Western hostages in the Lebanon by drawing attention to Baghdad's control over the 15 convicted Shia Muslim prisoners, previously held by Kuwait. Their release has been demanded by Shia hostage takers in Beirut who are believed to hold Terry Waite and others.

The new "foreign minister" of "free Kuwait", named as Walid Saud Mohammad Abdullah, said on Iraqi radio: "Countries which resort to punitive measures against the provisional government of free Kuwait and fraternal Iraq should remember that they have interests and nationals in Kuwait."

He added: "If these countries insist on aggression against Kuwait and Iraq, a Kuwaiti government will reconsider the method of dealing with those countries... these countries should not expect us to act honourably at a time when they are conspiring against us and our brothers in Iraq in an aggressive way."

That statement fuelled concern over the 3,000 British

civilians in Kuwait and 2,000 in Iraq. The British government has asked that those in Kuwait be allowed to leave, but has not protested over the fact that this has not been done.

British diplomats have been told that the 35 British military advisers taken in Kuwait have been moved to Baghdad as a precaution, which could mean that it was a first step towards repatriating them. It is more likely that they have been taken hostage to put pressure on Britain to drop

economic sanctions. The British government has not voiced this fear because it thinks there is a chance they might be freed.

Last night President Saddam's use of the British citizens in Kuwait as pawns was dismissed by the Foreign Office in London. "If this is the threat it appears to be it is totally unacceptable and not the way civilised governments behave."

Robin Kealy, the British charge d'affaires in Baghdad, said that the 35 military advisers were safe and well and negotiations were continuing. Faced with this crisis Margaret Thatcher is cutting short her visit to the US. After an hour's meeting with President Bush today the prime minister will fly back home.

The President spent a tense weekend striving to maximise global support for concerted economic action against Iraq, seeking to bolster Arab resolve and pressing hard for a total blockade of that country's oil exports. Last night the Japanese government announced the banning of imports of oil from Iraq and Kuwait.

American special operations forces were yesterday reported to be on their way to the region, along with three separate aircraft carrier battle groups, as the Pentagon finalised contingency plans for air strikes against Iraq should President Saddam order an attack on Saudi Arabia.

Iraq, meanwhile, announced it was withdrawing some of its 100,000-strong invasion force in accordance with a timetable which it had communicated to the United Nations Security Council. But

both the US and Kuwaiti officials in exile expressed profound scepticism. Diplomats in the Gulf said that 80,000 troops from the so-called volunteer Kuwaiti "Popular Army" — in reality almost entirely composed of Iraqis — were deployed around the country, and Iraqi troops were reported to be in the "neutral zone" on the border between Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, reinforcing fears that Iraq will follow its actions in Kuwait with aggression against Saudi Arabia.

In addition, witnesses in Kuwait reported seeing Iraqi tanks heading south towards the Kuwaiti oil fields near the Saudi border. In Baghdad, President Saddam ordered the formation of 11 new army divisions, according to Baghdad radio. It said the Iraqi leader had ordered the formation of one armoured division, a presidential guards division and nine other infantry and mechanised divisions from veterans of the Iran-Iraq war.

A statement by the Iraqi news agency said: "Began to withdraw from Kuwait territory at 8am Baghdad time today in accordance with a set timetable." But Marlin Fitzwater, the White House spokesman, said: "We have no independent or confirmable information on this."

Sources in the oil industry said that Iraqi troops had been seen digging in around Kuwait's southern oil fields.

Kuwaiti officials in exile said the nine-man military junta which had allegedly taken power in Kuwait was in reality composed entirely of Iraqis. Baghdad said the new government of "free Kuwait" was led by Colonel Ala Husain Ali, who would hold the positions of prime minister, commander in chief of the armed forces, minister of defence and minister of the interior. The other eight members of the new government were all senior army officers.

The Kuwaiti embassy in Jordan said the new government was "a list of fake names" and that Colonel Ali was in fact President Saddam's son-in-law. But the Iraqi news agency denied that any of the new leaders were Iraqis. It said they were "sons of Kuwait". On Friday King Hussein of Jordan flew to Baghdad and got a commitment from Saddam Hussein to attend peace talks in Jeddah yesterday, but the talks did not take place.

Four members of Kuwait's deposed ruling family flew into Heathrow last night and were whisked away amid tight security.

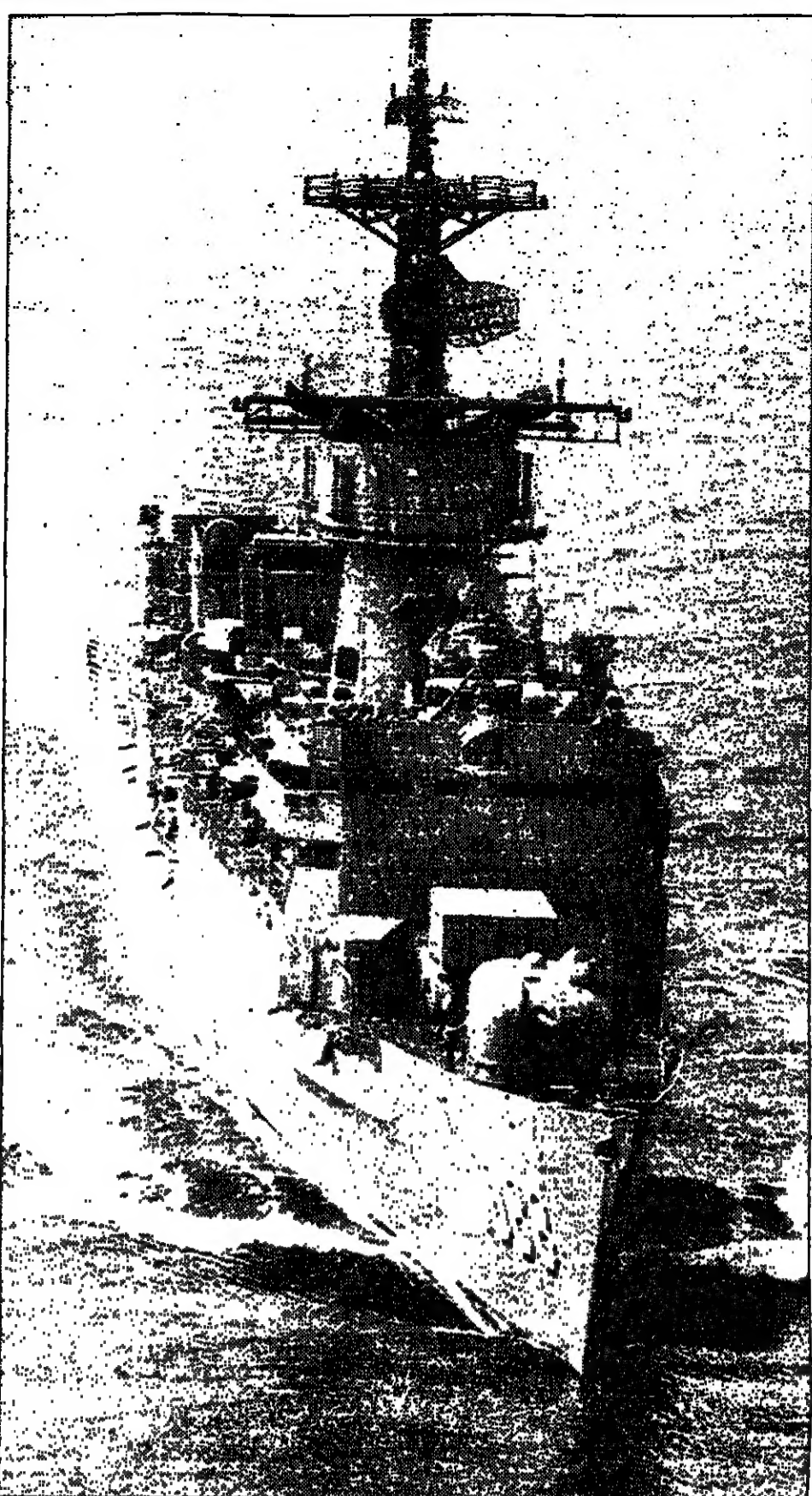
Britain bans imports of oil products

By GEORGE SIVELL

BRITAIN banned imports of Kuwait and Iraq oil products from midnight last night after a European Community decision to embargo oil from the two Gulf countries.

China, has also built a new embassy and the capital of Cyprus is one of the few cities in the region that has both an Israeli and a Palestine Liberation Organisation mission. Nicosia is host to a veritable army of diplomats and journalists who spy on each other as they monitor the hectic events in the Middle East.

The land the Soviet embassy is built on was bought from the monks of the



An American warship, the USS Barbey 1088, on patrol in the Gulf yesterday

Nine die as heat subsides

By JENNY KNIGHT

TEMPERATURES dropped sharply throughout most of the country yesterday, bringing welcome relief from the roasting 90s of last week. More sunny weather is expected this week, however, with temperatures in the 70s.

Enjoyment of the hot weather was marred by several accidents around the country. Nine people were feared drowned at the weekend, including four children.

A yachtsman aged 32 was feared drowned after his 14ft dinghy capsized off the Isle of Wight yesterday and a search was launched near Drummore in Dumfries and Galloway, after a boat with two men and a boy failed to return from a fishing trip on Saturday.

A girl aged 11 drowned at the Haven Holiday Centre at St Austell in Cornwall in less than 4ft of water. Tracey Tuffield, of Spitworth, near Norwich, trapped her hand in a swimming pool pipe. In Kent, two teenage brothers drowned in a lake near Dartford and a boy aged 14 died while swimming in a dock near his home in Queenborough, the Isle of Sheppey. A 22-year-old Scot died in the River Exe at Exeter.

Full report, page 21

US to rescue UK envoys in Liberia

By MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON AND OUR DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

FIVE British diplomats are expected to be rescued from Liberia today by US marines along with American civilians and diplomats. The first 59 Americans were brought out yesterday.

Operation Cutting Edge involved 225 fully-armed marines who were flown to the US embassy compound in the capital of Monrovia from four offshore US warships. They encountered no resistance. The evacuation followed threats by a rebel leader to arrest all civilians. Whitehall sources said it was "quite possible" the diplomats would leave, but 50 other Britons would be left behind.

This was because they had ignored every effort the government had made to persuade them to leave while it was still possible. This included visits, phone calls, and an offer to take part in a convoy of cars led by a British diplomat. "Those who are still there have made it clear they want to stay come what may," an official said.

However, State Department sources said the US would also evacuate foreigners, including about 50 Britons, if they could reach the embassy. Many of the Britons were living outside Monrovia, according to the sources. Others had British passports but not the right of abode in Britain.

Four US warships and 4,000 marines had been waiting just off the Liberian coast for weeks in case an evacuation was needed. Washington appeared reluctant to intervene, but changed its mind after Prince Johnson, one of two rebel leaders, ordered the arrest of all foreigners. It was unclear whether Prince Johnson intended to arrest diplomats as well as other civilians.

Continued on page 20, col 7

Stand up and be counted, Thatcher tells UN

From Peter Stothard, US Editor in Aspen, Colorado

MRS Thatcher yesterday asked all United Nations members to "stand up and be counted" in retaliation against the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait. In a call which British sources said was a test case of the UN's role, the prime minister demanded a "total economic embargo" unless Iraq withdrew its forces without delay.

Delivering a major foreign policy address to the Aspen Institute, Mrs Thatcher set out an ambitious programme for change in a number of key national institutions in order that the free world should grasp its opportunity to "fashion a new global community".

Calling for "a world in which true democracy and the rule of law are extended far and wide", Mrs Thatcher said that the EC should make an "unequivocal" declaration that it would admit all countries of Eastern Europe as members if they wanted to join and were ready to do so.

She said that the G7 group of wealthiest nations should grow closer to the Soviet Union and said that if other G7 leaders were agreeable, she would be happy to take "a first step" at next year's economic summit in London.

In her remarks about the UN she said that the organisation should redouble its determination that it should not be "invaded or subverted". "The invasion of Kuwait defies every principle for which the UN stands," she said. "If we let it succeed the law of the jungle takes over."

She called for "greater truth and objective standards", and condemned "abstractions and verbose vocabulary".

The prime minister tried to reassure Americans about her commitment to Europe. In accepting the Aspen Institute's Statesman Award, previously given to Jean Monnet and Willy Brandt, she set out a modified version of her controversial Bruges speech of 1988. She said that British democracy was at the heart of Europe and called on the autumn summit of the Conference of Security and Co-operation in Europe to endorse a "European Magna Carta" in which all European citizens would have rights to freedom of speech, worship, property and access to markets.

Mrs Thatcher's call for an accelerated expansion of EC membership is seen as a clear snub to the ambitious EC commission's president Jacques Delors to deepen the ties between present EC members. "If we set off down the path of giving more power to highly centralised institutions which are not democratically accountable, we should make it harder for the Eastern Europeans to join."

She explicitly rejected "the concept of first and second class membership of the community which will be divisive and defeat much of the purpose of bringing their countries into Europe."

She said that "new and more imaginative ways" were needed to help the economies of Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union. She suggested that the West might help to run a whole sector of the



Thatcher: demanded total economic embargo

Speech criticised: Opposition politicians criticised the prime minister's speech saying it offered little apart from rhetoric and fine phrases (Richard Ford writes). Gerald Kaufman, the shadow foreign secretary, dismissed the idea of a Magna Carta for Europe as "an absurdity".

Paddy Ashdown, leader of the Liberal Democrats, said: "We were promised a Churchillian vision on the role of the United Nations. All we got was the same tired old rhetoric, fine phrases, but few new ideas."

Thatcher speech, page 8

Leading article, page 11

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مكتبة المجلد

THE INVASION OF KUWAIT: SADDAM AGAINST THE WORLD

Polite diplomacy over fate of 35 seized servicemen

By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

THE fate of the 35 British servicemen held under armed guard in a hotel in Baghdad was the subject of highly sensitive and polite diplomatic negotiations yesterday between the Iraqi foreign ministry and Britain's senior diplomat in Iraq.

With the ambassador, Harold Walker, at home on leave, the role of intermediary was left to Robin Kealy, chargé d'affaires, who went to the Iraqi foreign ministry yesterday, his second visit in two days.

The delicate task facing him was underlined in London where officials were trying to put the most positive light on the reason for the Iraqi seizure of 35 military personnel from their residential camp outside Kuwait City on Friday night.

The 35, a few RAF personnel but mostly from the army's Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, were said to be well. Their families and other relatives, both in Kuwait and in Britain, were being kept informed of developments, the Foreign Of-

fice said. Whitehall sources said that the Iraqis may have decided it was prudent to remove experienced British servicemen from Kuwait, even though none of them was armed. However, the Iraqi soldiers involved seized only half of the British liaison team, which is in Kuwait to provide technical support for tanks and aircraft purchased from Britain. The RAF contingent is there to support Hawk jets sold to Kuwait. Most of the servicemen are non-commissioned officers, but there are two majors.

There was concern yesterday that the Iraqis might have ulterior motives for seizing the 35 men, who were flown to Baghdad on Saturday, although diplomatic sources said that the discussions held so far with the Iraqis in Baghdad had not been aggressive or confrontational. Mr Kealy told the Iraqis it was unacceptable to keep the Britons in custody and that they must be released.

Both the Foreign Office and defence ministry appeared anxious to play down any speculation over Iraq's motives for seizing the men. There remains concern that they could ultimately be used as bargaining ploys in the event of military action against Iraq or as part of an attempt to release Iraqi and Kuwaiti assets frozen in the West.

Labour has referred to the men as hostages. But the defence ministry said it did not consider this to be the case as the Iraqis had made no demands.

Iraq has not said why it seized the British servicemen who are part of a team of about 70 military advisers in Kuwait. Some of the servicemen were on leave in Britain at the time of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait and it is not clear whether the remaining personnel were all in the camp, about 20 miles south of the city, when the 35 were seized. They were taken away without violence, the defence ministry in London said. The Iraqis had given assurances that they were being well treated and that the situation was "something temporary".

Government spokesman: Gerald Kaufman, opposition spokesman on foreign affairs, yesterday accused the government of soft-peddling on economic sanctions against Iraq and of a "slack attitude" towards securing the release of the servicemen (Andrew McEwen writes).

The government believes it has been a front-runner in seeking comprehensive sanctions against Iraq, while using quiet diplomacy over the 35. The two views reflected a dilemma: Britain is bound to appear inconsistent in its approaches to the two issues. It supports Washington's tough stand on economic sanctions and may support military action to defend Saudi Arabia, but it has not made a diplomatic protest about the servicemen.

Concern is also growing about 3,000 British civilians in Kuwait and 2,000 in Baghdad. The government has asked that those in Kuwait be allowed to leave, but has not protested over the fact that this has not been done.

Mr Kaufman said the government had been soft from the start. It should have proposed a list of sanctions, including a naval blockade, a complete trade ban, and suspension of air links with Iraq, he said.

"I am very concerned by what seems to be the very slack attitude towards the seizure of the 35," he said. The government had given the impression that there was not much to worry about.

When the Security Council finally did pass a resolution calling for a ceasefire, it failed even to demand that Iraq withdraw its forces.

Until recently, that ignominious performance was blamed for the Iranian distrust of the council that complicated later negotiations to end the Gulf War. But last week it became clear that the prevarication also convinced Iraq that the Security Council could be ignored.

Over the weekend, diplomats from the five permanent members of the Security Council were working feverishly to reassert their authority, as the world waited to see how the United Nations functioned in its first big test since the end of the Cold War.

This time around, members of the Security Council rushed to the chamber within hours of the Iraqi aggression, meeting in formal session until dawn on Thursday. With only Yemen, the sole Arab member, abstaining for lack of instructions from its capital, they voted overwhelmingly to condemn the



Mr Bush and his advisers, at the president's Camp David retreat, discussing options to deal with Iraq's action against Kuwait

Bush strives for world economic action

From MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT Bush spent a tense weekend striving to maximise global support for concerted economic action against Iraq, seeking to bolster Arab resolve and pressing hard for a total blockade of Iraq's oil exports.

US special operations and hostage rescue forces were reported yesterday to be on their way to the region, together with three aircraft carrier battle groups, as the Pentagon finalised contingency plans for air strikes against Iraq should President Saddam Hussein order an attack on Saudi Arabia.

Marlin Fitzwater, the White House press secretary, yesterday expressed "serious scepticism" about reports of Iraqi troops being withdrawn from Kuwait, and reiterated that "all options", military as well as economic, remained open to the US.

He refused to confirm a report by *The Washington Post* of special forces, including elements of the elite Delta Force, being mobilised, but pointedly added that "in a general sense the US has extreme concern about the welfare of our citizens", and

which included bolstering the Saudi forces and full-scale US air attacks on key Iraqi military and industrial centres and its oil installations. This would involve the deployment of F-117 stealth fighters and B1-52 bombers, but a major deployment of US ground forces is considered unrealistic.

One Pentagon source suggested Washington was sharing satellite reconnaissance photographs with the Saudis to enable them to prepare defences, and US intelligence reports were said to indicate that Iraqi forces near the Saudi border were grouped in menacing formations. Mr Bush spent most of the weekend with top advisers including Richard Cheney, the defence secretary, at the presidential mountain retreat of Camp David but was due to return to Washington for yet another meeting at the White House last night.

On Saturday he spoke again by telephone to President Ozal of Turkey and King Fahd of Saudi Arabia, as well as to a number of other world leaders. About 90 per cent of Iraq's oil exports flow along pipelines through Saudi Arabia and Turkey, and the administration believes a blockade of those exports to be the speediest and most painful sanction available to the West in its efforts to force an Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait.

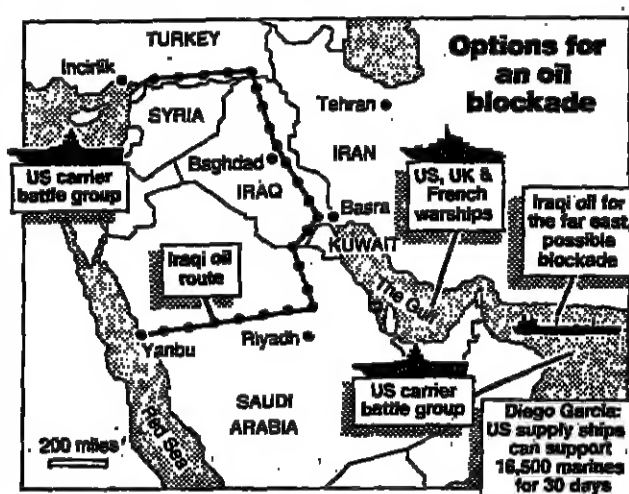
One senior official said the blockade was a key element of a US strategy that included trade sanctions, arms embargoes and escalating steps to ensure Iraqi compliance with the UN Security Council res-

olution demanding an immediate withdrawal by Iraq. Mr Fitzwater confirmed that Mr Bush spoke to both leaders about mounting a blockade but gave no details. Both Saudi Arabia and Turkey are said to be unenthusiastic about the idea, with Saudi Arabia fearing it might precipitate the feared Iraqi invasion.

Washington yesterday was lobbying members of the Security Council to order mandatory economic sanctions against Iraq because President Saddam had failed to comply with the council's demand that he withdraw immediately from Kuwait. China is a member of the council, and Richard Solomon, the assistant secretary of state, flew to Peking at the weekend to hold talks on the situation with the Chinese leadership.

Other intense White House diplomacy was aimed at ensuring that Arab states would not undermine international efforts to force an Iraqi withdrawal by agreeing to Iraqi control of Kuwait.

Zbigniew Brzezinski, page 10
British lion, page 21



Turkey threatened over key oil pipeline

From RASIT GURDILEK IN ANKARA

IRAQ warned Turkey yesterday not to impose sanctions against Baghdad. After two hours of talks here with President Ozal, Iraq's first deputy prime minister, Taha Yasin Ramadan, said Turkish leaders "should consider the future of our bilateral ties when taking a step".

An Iraqi pipeline runs through Turkey to the Mediterranean carrying 70 million tons of oil annually. Iraq has a separate link to a Saudi terminal, but is anxious to protect yearly proceeds of \$300 million (£162 million) in royalties every year. The oil revenues are needed to repair Iraq's war-ravaged economy and to meet the costs of an expensive armaments programme.

Mr Ramadan promised that "if they see through and foil the plots aiming to disrupt our friendship, the ties between Turkey, Iraq and Kuwait will flourish in every field". He hinted a softer line

on the Euphrates river dispute between Turkey and Iraq as an additional reward.

The Iraqi action had been misconstrued as an "invasion", he said. The withdrawal of Iraqi troops would take "maybe a few days, maybe some weeks". The return of the deposed al-Sabah family to rule "will be impossible". Baghdad would shortly start talks with the new government in Kuwait for the "settlement of outstanding issues".

Mr Ramadan said he was "convinced that Turkey will continue adhering to the neutral stance it has taken so far", adding: "I hope I am not mistaken in my assumption."

But after his departure, a presidential spokesman said that President Ozal, who was in regular contact with President Bush and Middle Eastern leaders, had warned Mr Ramadan about "the gravity of the threat to peace and security which arose with the invasion of Kuwait" and urged Baghdad "to adopt a constructive and realistic stance, taking into consideration the UN Security Council resolution and the reaction from the international community." He also disclosed that President Ozal had cancelled a tour of eastern provinces scheduled for the coming days, "preferring to stay in Ankara in view of the developments".

Turkey is concerned at Iraq's ability to produce long-range missiles, use chemical weapons and nuclear arms ambitions. Such worries per-

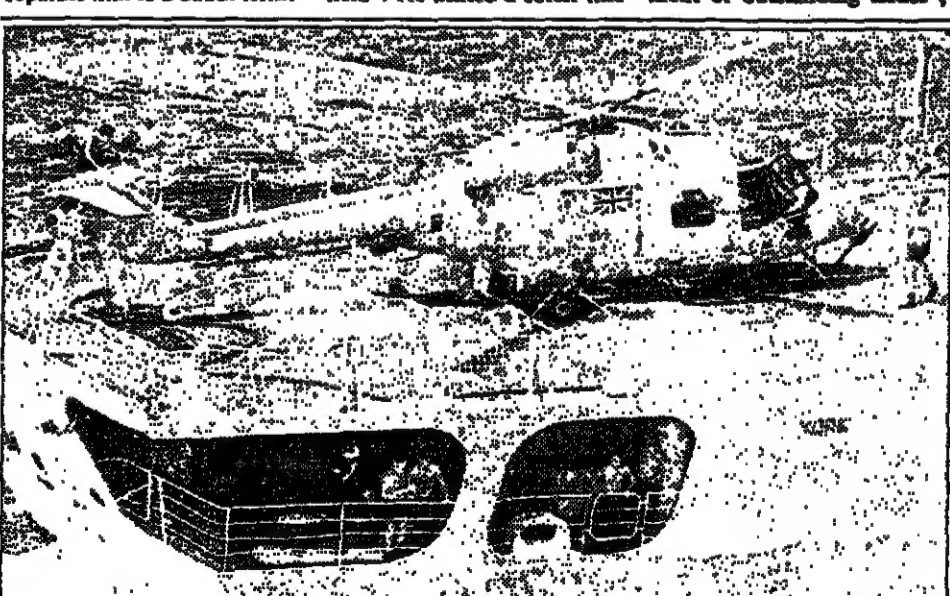
suaded Ankara to return to Britain earlier this year what were said to be parts of the "super gun" Iraq was suspected of building. Recent Iraqi demands for a larger share from the waters of the Euphrates river on which Turkey is building large dams, have also caused resentment.

But despite mounting pressures from its allies Turkey is reluctant to impose sanctions against Iraq. To do so would eliminate a promising market for Turkish exports and contracting services. Turkey, still trying hard to renew the obsolete equipment of its armed forces, does not want a brush with the battle-hardened war machine of Iraq. It was no surprise, therefore, that in dismissing the proposed forcing of Baghdad to its knees by the blocking of its oil as being too simplistic, Mr Ozal should warn on Saturday that "it may leave us alone at the forefront".

It is also not surprising that Mr Ozal, an expert at exploiting presented opportunities, should try to prop up Turkey's place in Europe, which was endangered with the collapse of the Eastern bloc. Hence his observation that the crisis required a collective NATO approach, as the security of Saudi Arabia and other Gulf countries as well as vital oil interests were at stake.

Speaking at the Aspen Institute, Mr Ozal made the point that as superpower influence recedes, smaller, regional powers such as Iraq are moving in to fill the vacuum. What was needed was "collective security" enforced by the United Nations.

Mr Urquhart, now a fellow of the Ford Foundation in New York, said at the weekend that if the Security Council was able to force Iraq to back down, its action would mark "a major evolution of the world order".



Crewmen on board HMS York servicing a Lynx helicopter as the British warship cruises through the Gulf yesterday

Security Council chance to fulfill intended role

From JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

WHEN Iraq invaded Iran in 1980, the United Nations Security Council stalled, apparently hoping for a swift Iraqi victory. For several days, the 15-nation panel - described by one foreign minister of the time as an "awesome organ" - held informal meetings, postponing the moment of truth when it would have to make its voice heard on the attack on the unpopular Iranian regime.

The delay prompted Brian Urquhart, the veteran British UN trouble-shooter, to render his frustration in verse:

We are the Awesome Organ,
A famous sight to see.
We cannot meet, we cannot vote;
What bloody use are we?
And when we reach the Chamber
The combatants will say,
"The war was over long ago,
So, Organ, go away!"

When the Security Council finally did pass a resolution calling for a ceasefire, it failed even to demand that Iraq withdraw its forces.

Until recently, that ignominious performance was blamed for the Iranian distrust of the council that complicated later negotiations to end the Gulf War. But last week it became clear that the prevarication also convinced Iraq that the Security Council could be ignored.

Over the weekend, diplomats from the five permanent members of the Security Council were working feverishly to reassert their authority, as the world waited to see how the United Nations functioned in its first big test since the end of the Cold War.

This time around, members of the Security Council rushed to the chamber within hours of the Iraqi aggression, meeting in formal session until dawn on Thursday. With only Yemen, the sole Arab member, abstaining for lack of instructions from its capital, they voted overwhelmingly to condemn the

Iraqi invasion of Kuwait. Diplomats from the five permanent members of the Security Council - Britain, China, France, the Soviet Union and the United States - then began meeting at the French mission in Manhattan to draw up a follow-up resolution imposing sanctions if Iraq refused to withdraw.

The United States circulated a draft resolution that would impose a blanket trade embargo on Iraq and Iraqi-occupied Kuwait, prevent new investment and loans and ban the supply of weapons to Baghdad. However, the draft stopped short of calling for United Nations members to break diplomatic ties with Iraq or to freeze the country's foreign assets, as several Western nations have done.

US diplomats said the sanctions package had wide-ranging support. "Many states with a large amount of trade in the Middle East and a large amount of oil trade are prepared to consider broad sanctions," one US official said. But the Americans were still having trouble yesterday

convincing three council members - China, which has veto power as a permanent member, Yemen and Cuba.

The Security Council has threatened punitive action only four times before in its 45-year history. In 1948 the threat was sufficient to force a ceasefire in the first Arab-Israeli war, and a similar warning in 1987 later brought about a truce in the Iran-Iraq war. An arms embargo against Rhodesia lapsed when the country became independent, but a Security Council-mandated arms embargo is still in effect against South Africa.

Diplomats, with their particularly keen sense of history, know that failure to impose effective sanctions on Iraq could spell disaster for the United Nations just as the debacle over the Italian invasion of Abyssinia in 1935 discredited its forerunner, the League of Nations.

But the rapprochement between the superpowers means that the Security Council can now act with united purpose to police the world

as it was intended to do under its charter. "The United Nations is a microcosm of the world," Olan Otunnu, the president of the International Peace Academy and tipped as a possible successor to the present UN Secretary-General, Señor Javier Pérez de Cuellar, said. "Thus, while the Cold War raged, the effectiveness of the world body was compromised. Today there exists an opportunity to give the United Nations a new lease of life, moving it towards the central co-ordinating role that was envisaged for it."

Speaking at the Aspen Institute, Mr Otunnu made the point that as superpower influence recedes, smaller, regional powers such as Iraq are moving in to fill the vacuum. What was needed was "collective security" enforced by the United Nations.

Mr Urquhart, now a fellow of the Ford Foundation in New York, said at the weekend that if the Security Council was able to force Iraq to back down, its action would mark "a major evolution of the world order".

from The Mouth of The Lough.



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THE INVASION OF KUWAIT: ARAB SHOCKWAVES

Syrians accuse Saddam of playing into Israel's hands

From MIKE THEODOLOU
IN NICOSIA

ALARM and despondency outweigh any feelings of delight that President Assad of Syria might feel at seeing his implacable Arab enemy embroiled in a diplomatic fiasco and alienated from his main arms supplier in Moscow after invading Kuwait.

For the second time in a decade President Assad, committed to united Arab action against Israel, has watched President Saddam Hussein strike out in the opposite direction, first against Persian Iran and now against an Arab state.

As a foreign ministry statement put it this weekend, the invasion played straight into Israel's hands. "Any attempt to create side battles

and conflicts which divert the Arab nations attention from the main effort against the enemy (Israel) is suspicious as it weakens Arab resources."

Unlike Iraq which has generally limited its attacks on the Zionist state to overblown rhetoric, Syria has been involved in all three Arab wars against Israel. Syria was the first Arab state to call for an emergency summit after Thursday's invasion. It was also the first to condemn it, although indirectly through the Syrian-backed administration of President Hafez in Lebanon, where Syria and Iraq fought a proxy war last year.

Analysts said it was far too early for President Assad to take comfort in the hope that sweeping world sanctions and arms embargoes would weaken his Arab rival, while he could be sure the invasion could guarantee Israel boosted economic and military support from the United States.

Hours after Iraqi troops crossed the Kuwaiti border, Syria's forces were put on alert, while officials this weekend discussed the situation with Iraq's other powerful neighbours, Turkey and Iran.

President Assad received a telephone call from the Turkish president, Turgut Ozal, while the Iranian foreign minister, Ali Akbar Velayati, arrived in Damascus with a message from President Rafsanjani. Syria was the only Arab state to side with Iran in the Gulf war. President Assad, who has been improving ties with America since Iraq's emergence as

the most powerful Arab state after the Gulf war, also received a message yesterday from President Bush.

In the short term President Assad has few fears that the unpredictable Iraqi leader will attack Syria, but as one Palestinian journalist commented: "His real concern is that Saddam Hussein will be driven out of Kuwait or even push on into Saudi Arabia."

The Syrian media, like that in Israel, was quick to point out that the invasion proved that President Saddam's threats must be taken seriously, that he was bloodthirsty and power mad, and must be cut down to size. But there were few tears shed in cash-strapped Damascus for the Kuwaiti royal

family, despised by many Syrians for their arrogance and their failure to follow through on pledges for financial aid.

Iraq and Syria, ruled by rival wings of the Baath party, have long pursued a vendetta which turned into a deep personal feud after President Saddam seized power in a coup 11 years ago.

The Iraqi leader has more than twice as many troops at his command than President Assad, and has frequently threatened to punish Syria for siding with Iran in the Gulf war. While Moscow has joined in the arms embargo on Iraq, defence experts say President Assad has huge arsenals of Soviet-made weapons, and has also begged, borrowed or stolen advanced Western know-how that

puts him in a position to make his own. China's commitment yesterday to an arms blockade on Iraq will also be doubted. In the past it has officially denied selling any weapons to Iraq but Western intelligence officials say China supplied Baghdad with billions of dollars worth of arms, including Silkorm missiles.

One reason Syria mended ties with Egypt earlier this year, severed for more than a decade because of the Camp David peace accords, was because President Assad hoped to counter Iraq's emergence as the leading Arab power.

President Assad was feeling increasingly isolated at a time when superpower disengagement meant that Moscow's strategic

interests in the Middle East had greatly decreased. President Assad was told the Soviet Union could no longer help to finance his dream of achieving strategic parity with Israel.

Rivalry between Iraq and Syria has been largely confined to lurid attacks in their state media, although last year Iraq tormented Syria in its own backyard. Lebanon, which President Assad has always considered of vital strategic importance because the Bekaa Valley is a natural corridor for Israeli troops to march on Damascus. While Syrian troops were directly embroiled in the six-month conflict, President Saddam remained in Baghdad, from where he supported the Christian Lebanese general, Michel Aoun.

Thousands at risk in police round-up of old enemies

By HAZHIR TEMOURJIAN

IRAQI police in Kuwait were said yesterday to be seeking to arrest some 10,000 "enemies of Iraq" with the number expected to rise as the invaders finished the immediate task of consolidating their hold over the country.

Clandestine communications with families and friends abroad indicated that Iraq's *Mukhabarat* (political police) roamed Kuwait City with names and addresses of critics of President Saddam Hussein who would be sent to Baghdad for questioning. Particularly at risk were Iraqi nationals and members of the large Shia community who had supported Iran during its war with Iraq.

Reports also indicated that the number of people who supported the invasion was much higher than originally thought. These sympathisers

came mainly from the estimated 400,000 Palestinians working in Kuwait. This could explain, perhaps, the stance of the Palestine Liberation Organisation which has refused to condemn the Iraqi invasion.

Kuwait's former rulers did not publish figures on the country's population, and informed estimates are the only guide to its make-up. The picture is complicated by Kuwait's two types of citizenship and mobile foreign workers.

Estimates put Kuwait's population at some two million, of whom about 800,000 are Kuwaiti nationals. Of the latter, only 60,000 to 70,000 are naturalised and can vote in the country's limited parliamentary elections.

Of Kuwaiti passport holders, 30-40 per cent are said to belong to the Shia branch of Islam, which predominates in

Iran. The community is led by several families of Iranian origin of first class citizenship who control the country's commerce. While determined to cling to their own culture, these families are fully integrated into the Kuwaiti establishment and in some cases, close to the exiled emir, Sheikh Jaber al-Sabah.

The majority of Shias, however, are southern Iranian Arabs who do seasonal work in Kuwait's commerce and industry and are largely non-political.

A minority likely to play a crucial part in Iraq's plans for Kuwait's future are the 400,000 Palestinians who represent the country's middle managers and have been denied citizenship. Many Palestinians are said to support an annexation of the country by Iraq so they would enjoy equal legal status to Iraqi natives.

Some 100,000 Egyptians and Jordanians and about 10,000 Iraqi citizens — as distinct from Kuwaitis of Iraqi origin — are Kuwait's other prominent Arab nationalities. Their political views are unknown.

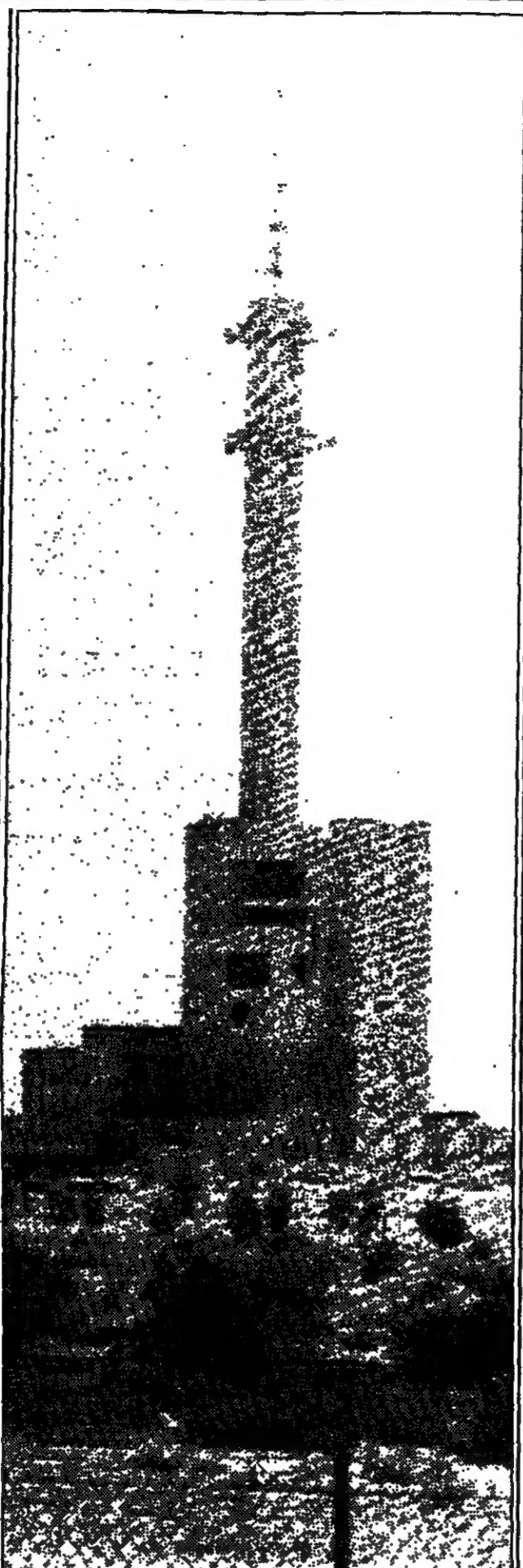
The truth is that only the al-Sabah family and the Bedouin tribes liked the al-Sabahs, a source closely associated with the former rulers said yesterday, "and they are not very numerous. Particularly in the past two years when the members of the former parliament and other respected critics of the emir were arrested and beaten up because they wanted a new parliament, even middle class Kuwaitis were alienated. And it's all the fault of the emir himself. He despised everyone who was not a Sabah or a Bedouin."

The emir may now be blamed for his support of Iraq in the Iran-Iraq war. In addition to billions of petrodollars, he gave the Iraqi secret police a virtual free hand in Kuwait "so much so that none of us members of the Iraqi opposition felt safe to set foot on the soil of Iraq", an Iraqi exile in London said.

The source estimated that President Saddam had placed as many as 35,000 secret members of his Baath party (from among all of Kuwait's Arab nationalities) in professional positions in Kuwait. If this is true, the invasion may have been planned for many years and the Baathists may be well placed to form the nucleus of a puppet state before a "union" of the two countries. Baathists are also said to have reached high rank in the Kuwaiti army.

● NICOSIA: The Iraqi-installed government of Kuwait said yesterday that a round-the-clock curfew, imposed after Iraqi forces invaded the Gulf state last Thursday, would be lifted during daylight hours.

Iraqi radio said an "interior ministry" statement broadcast by the "Voice of the Masses" radio in Kuwait said the curfew would be lifted from between 7 am and 7.30 pm starting today. (Reuters)



Tower casualty: Kuwait City's television tower was partly damaged after being attacked by Iraqi forces. The television went off the air last Friday



Sheikh Jaber al-Sabah, the Kuwaiti emir, condemning the Iraqi invasion on Saudi Arabian television yesterday. The ruling family have taken refuge in Saudi Arabia

Blow for Mubarak as summit plan collapses

From RICHARD OWEN IN DUBAI

ARAB hopes of an early diplomatic solution collapsed yesterday as Arab leaders failed to convene a promised Arab summit meeting aimed at resolving the conflict. Iraq announced that President Saddam Hussein would not attend planned talks in Jeddah. This follows the refusal of the ousted emir of Kuwait to meet the Iraqi leader in Jeddah until Iraqi troops are withdrawn from Kuwait.

The failure is a blow for President Mubarak of Egypt, who has spearheaded the Arab diplomatic drive. But as in the past, full Arab unity has proved elusive, even in the face of a clear act of aggression by one Arab state against another. Still, Mr Mubarak said he hoped plans for an Arab summit would be finalised "within 48 hours", and insisted that efforts to avert "foreign military intervention" were continuing.

Mr Mubarak said the Arab world would be "disgraced" if it failed to persuade Iraq to withdraw and foreign intervention became inevitable. "We are still making efforts to lay the basis for solving the problem through the withdrawal of Iraqi troops," the Egyptian leader said in Alexandria after talks with Yasser Arafat, leader of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, in the wake of the Iraqi invasion. "Arab efforts must succeed so that we do not need foreign powers to solve our Arab problems," Mr Mubarak said. "That would be a disgrace on our Arab nation."

Asked whether the 24-hour delay by Egypt and other Arab nations in condemning the invasion showed they were afraid of President Saddam, Mr Mubarak said: "You should not understand it in this way." Cairo had waited because it hoped its diplomatic efforts would "conclude something quickly".

Much diplomatic activity centred yesterday on Turkey, which could play a key role in international attempts to squeeze Iraq economically by depriving it of the capacity to export oil, including "stolen oil" from Kuwait. An Iraqi official, Taha Yassin Ramadan, arrived in Ankara with a message for President Ozal, reportedly urging the Turkish leader to keep open the pipelines which pump Iraqi crude oil through Turkey. President

Bush said on Friday that a Turkish decision to cut a pipeline was "certainly an option". But Mr Ozal said there had been no "demand" from Washington to close the pipeline and such a demand was "out of the question". Iraq sends 1.6 million barrels of oil a day through Turkey, which takes 60 per cent of its crude oil imports from Iraq. The imports are worth \$1.5 billion (£810 million) a year to Iraq. Another Iraqi pipeline passes through Saudi Arabia to the Red Sea oil terminal at al-Muajjis.

The 45-member Islamic Conference Organisation meeting in Cairo, condemned Iraq at the weekend and called for an immediate withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Kuwait. The resolution also declared support for Sheikh Jaber al-Sabah, the ousted Kuwaiti emir as the legitimate ruler of the country. But five Arab league members — Jordan, Sudan, Mauritania, Yemen and the PLO — abstained, and Libya and Djibouti did not attend the vote.

Mr Arafat, who formulated a peace proposal with Colonel Gaddafi of Libya, yesterday took the plan to Baghdad and discussed it with President Saddam. No details of the proposal were available. The conference also issued a

statement yesterday calling on the United States and the Soviet Union to take steps to prevent the settlement of Soviet Jews in the Israeli-occupied territories, including east Jerusalem. The statement accused America of being biased towards Israel by using its veto at the United Nations to prevent pro-Palestinian measures, and urged Washington to "take a balanced political stand". The Islamic conference said the "expansionist Zionist enemy" was aimed at destabilising Islamic countries, and it urged Washington to resume its dialogue with the PLO. At the request of Syria, the meeting condemned attempts at the UN to rescind resolution 3379 equating Zionism with racism.

In Saudi Arabia the government-controlled press ended its four-day silence on Iraq's invasion of Kuwait, but spoke only in generalities. The newspaper *Al-Nadwa* said that Arab and Muslim nations must unite to "reject aggression and invasion" but it failed to mention Iraq by name. Another newspaper, *Okaz*, said dialogue must be used "to resolve differences between brothers and keep the Arab nation safe from international alliances which have caused it suffering in the past".

Panic as Iraq's shadow falls across the Gulf

From RICHARD OWEN IN DUBAI

CROWDS of anxious Gulf Arabs in flowing white robes could be seen gathered round news agency printers in the lobbies of luxury hotels, hungry for every scrap of information.

At one point Israel's military leaders were reported as warning Saddam Hussein not to provoke Israel because he would be decisively defeated. Within minutes, the rumour was being excitedly spread across air-conditioned lobbies that Israel was going to give "that madman in Baghdad a bloody nose and stop him in his tracks". Some Arabs, apparently burying their hostility to Israel, could be heard expressing the hope that this would happen. "Things must have turned topsy-turvy if Saddam is more of a demon to some Arabs than Israel," one diplomat observed.

In the feverish and confused atmosphere after the Iraqi invasion, rumours have proliferated, making money markets, oil dealers and local leaders jumpy. Local media in the Gulf barely reported the invasion until Saturday, and insisted that joint naval manoeuvres by the United States and the United Arab Emirates were merely low-profile "training exercises" unconnected to the situation.

The main fear is that although the UAE has yielded to Iraq by agreeing to cut back its oil production, thus removing a potential *casus belli*, President Saddam will either attack the all-but-defenceless Emirates or, more likely, seek to manipulate and control Gulf affairs by sheer intimidation.

Hence the panicky atmosphere as President Saddam's shadow falls across the oil wells, tanker moorings and luxury hotels and clubs set surreally amid endless stretches of arid desert bordering the clear waters of the Gulf. "Nobody really knows what the ruling families of the Gulf think," one observer said. "Their preferred option, Arab diplomatic co-operation, does not look hopeful. But if they are seen to be asking for outside help, Saddam can claim they are the tools of imperialism."

The atmosphere of unreality is reinforced by the fact that foreign workers in the Emirates — Indians, Pakistanis, Palestinians, Filipinos, Britons and Europeans — outnumber local Arabs by five to one. Expatriate numbers have

been swelled by a small army of Western journalists, all trying — so far in vain — to enter Kuwait, Iraq or Saudi Arabia, and adding to the rumour mill in the meantime.

Some of the stories circulating in the past few days, such as the reported seizure by the Iraqis of the American refuelling vessel *Sea Wolf*, turned out to be true. Others appear to emerge from imagination or wishful thinking. At one point, President Saddam was confidently reported to have been assassinated.

Another persistent story is that more than 100 senior Iraqi officers have been executed for opposing the invasion of Kuwait and trying to overthrow Saddam.

Yesterday a local paper, *The Khaleej Times*, deplored the growth of "silly, imaginative stories" and urged its readers not to "block lines" by constantly telephoning editorial offices to check rumours.

The atmosphere, none the less, remains nervous, and one Gulf state, Bahrain, went so far as to ban journalists altogether, obliging a large contingent of British reporters to spend an uncomfortable night at the airport before putting them on a plane to Dubai.

The Gulf Arabs thought they could tell Saddam down with golden threads by enmeshing him in huge debts," a resident American businessman said. "Instead, he has simply swallowed up one of his main creditors and seized its oilfields. This leaves the other Gulf states staring like rabbits frozen by the stare of the wolf."

Foreign businessmen reported a brief run on the banks on Friday as alarmed Western residents withdrew cash in case the trouble spread south. Sources said calm had now returned, but there was a danger that future Western investors might not automatically regard the Gulf as a stable environment for commerce. The official view, however, is that international pressure will force President Saddam to withdraw.

Yesterday a leading Saudi newspaper, *al-Yom*, said the situation was diverting Arab attention from the struggle with Israel. "It is high time we realised that our real battle is with world Zionism," the paper said.

Puppet regime set up to impose Baghdad's will

From JUAN CARLOS GUMUCIO IN DOHA

EVEN if every Iraqi soldier of President Saddam Hussein's invading army leaves Kuwait, the tiny but immensely wealthy state will remain entirely at Baghdad's mercy.

Iraq has established a puppet regime which calls itself the "provisional government of free Kuwait" which Kuwaiti and Gulf diplomats say is not only entirely formed by Iraqi nationals but led by President Saddam's son-in-law. The Iraqi media has identified the head of the regime as Colonel Ali Hussein Ala but only a few Kuwaitis say they know who he really is.

So obscure is the nature of the new regime that virtually none of the names of the nine-man "revolutionary" cabinet are known in Kuwait.

One of those certain that President Saddam's son-in-law heads the new regime in Kuwait is the Kuwaiti ambassador to Tunis. But the claim has been denied by Baghdad. Speaking at a news conference on Saturday night the Iraqi ambassador to the United States, Mr Mohammad al-Mashat, insisted that all mem-

bers of the new regime are Kuwaitis. He vehemently dismissed allegations that Colonel Ali Hussein is related to the Iraqi president. "This is a pure Kuwaiti government," he said.

Whatever the nationality of the authorities imposed by Iraq, they are highly unlikely to make the slightest objection to President Saddam's actions. To ensure absolute submission, the Iraqi leader has disbanded Kuwait's 20,000-member armed force and replaced it with a "popular army" open to all nationalities, expected to number as many as 140,000, about the same strength of the army that invaded Kuwait last Thursday.

The bulk of this force is thought to be formed by President Saddam's own "popular army", the war-hardened militia that fought alongside the Iraqi army against Iran until 1988. The Iraqi media yesterday continued to invite "volunteers" to join the "patriotic forces" defending our brothers in Kuwait.

The 'free government'

THE "Free Provisional Government of Kuwait" announced by the Iraqis: Prime minister, commander-in-chief of the armed forces, minister of defence and minister of the interior, Colonel Ali Hussein Ali; minister of foreign affairs, Lieutenant-Colonel Walid Saad Mohammad Abdullah; minister of oil and acting minister of finance, Lieutenant-Colonel Fuad Hussein Ahmad; minister of information and acting communications minister, Major Fadi Haidar al-Wafiq;

minister of health and public works, Major Mishaal Saad al-Hadad; minister of social affairs and labour, acting acting minister of housing, Lieutenant-Colonel Hussein Ali al-Shammari; minister of education and acting minister of higher education, Major Nasser Mansour al-Mandil; minister of justice and acting minister of Islamic affairs, Major Issam Abdul Majeed Hussein; minister of trade and acting minister of planning, Major Yacoub Mahmoud Shalal. (AP)

How Britons fled tanks and crossed border to safety

By MICHAEL HORSNELL

SCARCELY more than 20 of Britain's 3,000-strong community in Kuwait managed to keep ahead of the invading Iraqi tanks and flee over the border to the safety of Saudi Arabia in the early hours last Thursday.

But by last night a thin trickle of evacuees again began to get through the two-and-a-half mile no-man's land between the two countries as the Iraqis appeared to ease restrictions.

The British embassy confirmed that three more Britons had crossed into Saudi Arabia after making the one-hour drive from Kuwait, bringing the total to 23. The road appears to have been cleared and Iraqi soldiers to be taking a more relaxed attitude to the exodus.

evacuation before dawn last Thursday, along the main desert highway from Kuwait City, began to emerge as a two-man team of British diplomats remained at the border in the hope that more might escape.

The two vice-consuls, who will stay there on a contingency basis, helped those Britons without visas to enter Saudi Arabia via the town of Khafji after their last drive south.

"There were many who would have liked to get out but left it too late," said David Lear, an oil industry executive who was "in the field" when he drove out. "People just had time to pack one or two things and throw them in their cars. I think some families may have been split up. There have been one or two horror stories."

Mr Lear, who described his position as sensitive and said he had

been instructed not to talk of his personal predicament, said that while some of the 20 escaping Britons reached the border before Iraqi troops arrived, others were stopped. But the soldiers allowed them to continue. "There were very quickly a lot of Iraqi soldiers at the border but they did not initially make any effort to stop people crossing over."

A number of the escapees decided to seek safety by driving south in their company cars after listening to BBC World Service broadcasts all day, said Mr Lear, "it was obvious what was going to happen. It was a matter of hours. The attack was pretty swift."

"Everyone came out by road along the main highway. People who didn't have visas or any other documentation to get into Saudi

were waved through. All the embassies did an excellent job. But it was a surprise that at that stage the Iraqi soldiers let them through."

He added: "Those who did get away are very relieved. People are wondering what is going to happen to their positions and possessions: that is their main worry. Nobody can get through to Kuwait. The lines are cut."

"Saddam is supposed to be withdrawing his troops, but whether he does we don't know. He has got it all locked up. There seems to be a split in opinion in Saudi on whether he goes into Saudi. People are not angry, just pleased to be out. Everyone knew from him sitting on the Kuwaiti border what was going to happen."

British embassy sources in Riyadh said that though further help

was offered to escapees once they had crossed the border, most people preferred to make their own arrangements. There was no need to institute an evacuation procedure because not that many people were fleeing Kuwait, it was said.

A spokesman for the Foreign Office said: "The border between Kuwait and Saudi Arabia has been sealed but we are keeping our team there on a contingency basis."

● Still grounded: British Airways flight 147 remained grounded yesterday at Kuwait City airport after touching down on Thursday to refuel. The flight, via Madras to Kuala Lumpur, has 367 passengers including Britons, Indians and Malaysians, and 18 crew. All are said to be safe at hotels in Kuwait. A spokesman for BA said: "We are monitoring the situation."

Writing for 'The Bill'

It's almost as tough as being in the Bill.

When Hemingway wrote 'The Sun Also Rises', he was writing from his own experience.

When Conrad wrote about a journey into the 'Heart of Darkness', he'd already been there.

And when our writers sit down to write for 'The Bill', they too are writing from experience.

Not that we're claiming our writers are on the same literary plane as Conrad or Hemingway.

It's just that we believe there's no substitute for experiencing the real thing - if, that is, you want to depict the real thing.

Which is why, before any of our writers put pen to paper to write about fictional police, we expect them to put in a lot of time observing and talking to real ones.

When we started the programme in 1984, we felt strongly that there were too many glamorised cop shows on TV.

There still are.

But 'The Bill' is not one of them.

It's about police work. Not about

policemen's love lives. And it depicts what life on the force is really like, not some exquisitely lit Armani-clad fantasy.

You'll seldom, if ever, see the 'Bill' team pitting their wits against slick, international jewel-thieves or deadly mafiosi.

Generally, they pit their wits against every-

day life on the streets with all its trials and tribulations.

To make sure they do so strictly according to police procedure, every scene and every line of dialogue is scrutinised by two police advisors: one ex-uniform, the other, ex-CID. Of course, none of this

'TV-verité' would be of any consequence if the sets or the locations were less than convincing.

Which is why we built our very own fully operational police station, Sun Hill.

But is our policy of total realism - what we call beat-credibility - really worth all the effort?

That, of course, is for you the viewer to decide.

Certainly, the police seem to think so. Indeed many of them are dedicated 'Bill' watchers.

And from our own point of view, it has helped us to depict difficult and delicate issues in what we hope is a more sensitive and informed manner.

Above all, regular viewing figures of around eleven million confirm to us that drama can be authentic without having to lose any of its entertainment value.

All it takes is a brilliant cast of actors and actresses.

A fearless, dedicated production team.

And a lot of hard-hitting writing.



THAMES. A TALENT FOR TELEVISION.

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TUC urges consensus over pay and inflation

By TIM JONES
EMPLOYMENT
CORRESPONDENT

THE TUC is calling for a dialogue between government, unions and employers to combat inflationary pressures and relate future demands to long-term economic policies.

The call, made in a policy document that also urges early entry into the European Monetary System's exchange-rate mechanism, coincides with a warning that pay in Britain is rising nearly twice as fast as in most other European Community countries.

Incomes Data Services, the pay-monitoring group, says that British pay rises have averaged 9.5 per cent this year and could increase to more than 10 per cent this month before dropping back to about 6.2 per cent next year. In West Germany, wages have risen by 4.9 per cent, while in France they increased by 4.5 per cent.

The TUC says that the government's policy of decentralising collective bargaining has failed to weaken trade union

bargaining power. It has, however, created a less co-ordinated structure that is more prone to inflationary pressure, often caused by employers trying to meet skill shortages.

The document, *Managing the Economy*, says: "The system of wage bargaining developed in the UK makes it virtually impossible for wage-bargainers to take the exchange rate or other changes in the economy into account in individual wage negotiations. The government has effectively excluded trade unions and employers from meaningful discussions on economic policy."

"This is why ministers have fallen back on the most ineffective of all policy measures, exhortation, rather than responding positively to TUC proposals for a national economic assessment involving trade unions, employers and government."

The TUC document says that the 1992 free market will place intense competitive pressures on Britain, and that industry must meet the challenge by moving towards the high-productivity, high-wage economy of more successful European rivals. "The danger is that without a positive lead from government, Britain could easily take the wrong direction and try to compete on the basis of low-cost, low-wage and low-productivity industrial production," it says.

Although the TUC says that joining the exchange-rate mechanism will not itself resolve Britain's underlying problems, it urges sterling's entry at an exchange rate close to DM2.70 and within the broad band letting the pound

rise or fall by 6 per cent. "Membership will help exporters and promote trade, but it cannot of itself remove a trade deficit caused by deep-seated uncompetitiveness," it says.

"Membership will provide a framework for tackling inflation, but it cannot remove the structural weaknesses which lie behind Britain's high inflation rate. That will require policies on investment, research and development and training."

The document also calls for military research resources to be transferred to civilian use.

Company income should be directed into long-term investment, rather than into short-term profits.

The paper also calls for a financial institution to provide capital for investment in innovation and technology, drawing on both public and private funds, and the creation of an alternative framework for public spending based on priorities reflecting a wider consensus in society.

Tighter controls on mergers and takeovers are proposed to protect firms undertaking long-term investment. The TUC document also calls for an agreement by the unions to negotiate new working practices and to accept new technology.

Norman Willis, TUC general secretary, said: "Despite all the government claims to the contrary, it is now clear that there has been no economic miracle in the past decade."

Rodney Bickerstaffe, chairman of the TUC economic committee, said: "Workers are willing to play their part in turning the British economy

NHS pay dispute

PROPOSALS to dismantle the health service's national pay structures could lead to "massive industrial relations problems", it was claimed today. The union side of the Whitley Council, which deals with National Health Service wages, said that pay and conditions for the new health care assistants who support a number of NHS professions should be determined nationally and not on an "arbitrary basis according to local circumstances".

Paul Marks, national health officer of the local government union Nalga, said that Eric Caines, the NHS personnel director who mooted the proposals, was acting "irresponsibly".

Why North Sea bears have a sore head over safety

By KERRY GILL

THE patience of the North Sea "bears", the nickname given to contractors' men who work as riggers, scaffolders, welders and platers, wore out last summer when thousands stopped work in 24-hour wildcat strikes on oil and gas installations.

Since then the unofficial Offshore Industry Liaison Committee, the organisation behind the dispute, has gained strength until in July it decided to give Britain's oil companies a summer of discontent that would halt essential maintenance and repair work on platforms from north of Shetland to East Anglia.

Market forces have affected the contractors' men since oil was discovered in the North Sea. When oil prices were high, they were in demand, getting relatively high salaries. However, in 1986, when oil prices fell, thousands were paid off. They have since become the industry's second-class citizens, Ronald McDonald, the liaison committee's chairman, says.

The men say their fight is to improve safety offshore; they want health and safety at work legislation to be extended to cover North Sea installations. They also say that their wages are lower than those of the oil companies employ directly.

The companies say, however, that safety is more than covered by existing procedures and accuse the strike organisers of using safety as a pretext to gain bargaining power offshore.

The problem faced by the contractors, who look after activities from domestic cleaning to diving, is that, because of short-term contracts, they cannot offer their workforce a career structure, regular training, pensions and sick pay. They too are subject to market forces. When oil production is affected, non-essential maintenance may not take place. This has led to instability among subcontractors and more bitterness among their men.

After last year's strikes some companies tried to give the men longer contracts and to pay for the virtually mandatory £300 survival courses. However, the United Kingdom Offshore Operators Association says the present dispute is futile, and is jeopardising the safety standards the workers demand.

Mr McDonald, aged 42, said: "It is unfortunate that the only solutions have to be

found through confrontation." The disputes have resulted in the oil companies, principally Shell, flying any striker back to the mainland. This has led to sit-ins by hundreds of workers and threats from the companies to dismiss any men who refuse to board helicopters.

Mr McDonald says he is dismayed. If the oil companies decide on increased confrontation, then he is prepared to call an indefinite strike that could affect all 10,000 men engaged on repair and maintenance work.

Police plea on murder phone call

The detective leading the hunt for the killer of two young women in north London two weeks ago yesterday repeated his appeal for a telephone caller who gave information to contact him again (Mark Souster writes).

Detective Chief Superintendent Geoff Parratt believes that the caller, who rang Highbury Vale police station, holds the key to the enquiry. The person - police will not say whether it was a man or woman - convinced him he or she held crucial information, but failed to keep a rendezvous with him.

Poll tax loan call

Allerdale district council in Cumbria is asking residents for a £20 poll tax surcharge to settle a £6 million Swiss bank loan after a time-share project in the Lake District went disastrously wrong. The council's chief executive, Tony Perry, said yesterday: "This venture has been a disaster. We shall be asking our poll tax payers here to fork out an extra £20 each to settle the Swiss debt."

Shared lead

Jonathan Mestel and Peter Wells share the lead with five points after six rounds of the British chess championship at Eastbourne. In joint third with 4½ points are the defending champion Michael Adams, Jon Speelman, David Norwood, Daniel King, Stuart Conquest and William Watson. Speelman drew with Mestel in round six, as did Norwood with Adams. The contest ends on Friday.

Scargill vows to 'fight like hell' after Libya report

By TIM JONES

AS ARTHUR Scargill, the miners' president, began today to "fight like hell" to persuade his men that he acted in their interests, members of his executive will consider whether they should fly to Libya to ask President Gaddafi if his country gave more than £160,000 to British miners during their strike.

Mr Scargill, who insisted that any action he took during the year-long confrontation deserved "congratulation, not condemnation", plans today to meet representatives of the National Union of Mine workers in the Midlands at the start of a campaign to justify to the rank and file his position against what he considers a trial by media.

Yesterday he said he would "fight like hell" to demonstrate that he had always acted in the best interests of the union. Mr Scargill, whose stewardship has been condemned by Gavin Lightman, QC, said a report that his union had received a cheque from Libya was nonsense. The report, in *The Sunday Times*, said Colonel Gaddafi confirmed that British miners had received the money for humanitarian reasons.

Mr Scargill said: "They were supposed to have handed a cheque to the NUM at a time when it was in sequestration. Now anyone with a degree of common sense will understand that you could not possibly cash any cheques after the 21st October 1984."

Roger Windsor, the former union chief executive who lives in France, has claimed he took the money, in cash, to the NUM headquarters, and that it was used to pay off debts owed by himself, Mr Scargill and Peter Heathfield, the NUM general secretary.

In his report, Mr Lightman says no Libyan, Soviet or any other money was used to pay home loans or improvement loans for Mr Scargill or Mr Windsor. Mr Scargill, the Lightman report says, did seek

financial help from Libya, but Mr Lightman was unable to say whether it was received.

Last night, Gordon Butler, one of the NUM team charged with accounting for more than £3 million of Soviet and East European money in Dublin and Vienna banks, said: "If this money was given, then we should try to find out where it is now. It is time for Arthur to stop being on the defensive and come out on the offensive about this money."

Mr Scargill said: "Mr Windsor went to Libya specifically to talk to trade unions to try to stop the flow of oil into Britain which Mrs Thatcher was delighted to receive."

"Peter Heathfield and myself know of no money that emanated from Libya. We certainly know that Mr Windsor brought money into the NUM offices, which we were told came from the French CGT union. If Mr Windsor is saying it came from Libya, that is his story and not ours."

Leading article, page 11



Finishing touch: Esther Johns uses a brush and a tin of hoof cream yesterday to prepare Shetland ponies Pinky and Perky for competition at the London riding horse parade, held in Rotten Row, Hyde Park, London.

Two men seen near Gow's home before IRA killing

By STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

A FARMWORKER and a local resident have reported seeing two men moving under cover of darkness through countryside close to the home of Ian Gow days before his death at the hands of the IRA. Sussex police disclosed yesterday.

The men, seen six days before the car-bomb attack on the Eastbourne MP, may have been an IRA reconnaissance unit sent to scout Mr Gow's home at Hankham, East Sussex. Yesterday, as police called on the men to come forward and eliminate themselves from the enquiry, officers were indicating that the sightings, about half a mile from Hankham, could be a key advance in the investigation.

The IRA is known to reconnoitre possible targets before an attack. The men could have approached Hankham at night to check the path that they would take to plant the bomb. Detective Chief Superintendent Roger Hills, head of Sussex CID and officer in charge of the investigation, said: "It is possible this is not connected with

the investigation, but we can't rule out the possibility that these men had knowledge of the explosion and were carrying out surveillance."

The first sighting was at 11pm on July 24 when a farmworker driving along a road near Hankham saw a man moving away from the village. The man, who was crossing the road, got off it quickly to avoid being picked out by the headlights and disappeared into a field.

Soon afterwards a local resident saw the man and a second person in a field near the same road. The pair moved through the fields and vanished, still heading away from the village.

The two men are described as aged between 20 and 40. One was wearing a light blue shirt and a pair of army-style green or khaki trousers. One was carrying a torch. Police believe it is unlikely that they were poachers or petty thieves.

Police have said that they believe the IRA must have checked Mr Gow's home at least once before the attack. Hankham is a small and

isolated village, where strangers would have been quickly spotted, and the IRA may have gone there at night to avoid being challenged or noted.

Drivers of two Sierra cars seen in the area of the village on the morning of the attack have not come forward. Police will today issue a fresh appeal for information from drivers who travelled through the area near Hankham last Monday. Leaflets will be handed out at traffic lights and road junctions asking drivers to try to remember anything that could help the enquiry.

Over the past week police have interviewed villagers for clues, and the incident room at Eastbourne has received more than 2,200 calls from the public. Thirty containers of material found by police searching the bomb blast area have been sent for scientific examination.

Scotland Yard's anti-terrorist hotline (0800 789 321) has received more than 300 calls in its first fortnight and produced some potentially fruitful information, it has been disclosed.

'Amnesty' offer for informers

By EDWARD GORMAN
IRISH AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

THE Provisional IRA said it was declaring an amnesty yesterday for members working secretly for the security forces from inside its organisation, ten days after an alleged informer was killed.

Informers have until next Saturday to come forward without fear of reprisal, the Provisionals said. The chance of an amnesty might never arise again.

A statement to a news agency in Dublin said that tip-offs from informers had led to the death and injury of IRA volunteers and civilians. It went on: "While this is abhorrent and is unjustifiable, we also understand that those who give information to the British forces are often victims themselves. People whose vulnerability is used in the most cynical manner by the Crown forces to trap them into informing on their neighbours and fellow nationalists."

The appeal comes after the killing of Patrick Flood, from Londonderry, found in a ditch in South Armagh on July 27 barefoot, bound, hooded, and shot through the head. The IRA said his tip-offs had led to five arrests.

Tory MP loses his bodyguards

By RICHARD FORD
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

SPECIAL Branch bodyguards were withdrawn from protecting a leading politician two days after an IRA car bomb killed Ian Gow, the Conservative MP and close colleague of the prime minister.

The politician was told before Mr Gow's killing that a driver and an armed officer who accompanied him on visits from his home to Parliament and on trips outside London would be removed at the beginning of August. In spite of the IRA attack on Mr Gow at his East Sussex home, the decision was implemented and the politician, who has strong links with Northern Ireland and is an outspoken critic of the IRA, is now unprotected. Before the guards were removed he was given security advice and told that if he or his family felt anxious about personal protection, they should contact Scotland Yard.

After the review, the politician, who did not plead for the retention of his bodyguards, wanted it on the record that he had discussed the proposal to remove them with Mr David Waddington, the home secretary and with Margaret Thatcher.



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By ROBIN YOUNG

Election unlikely to boost Tory women in parliament

By ROBIN OAKLEY
POLITICAL EDITOR

ONLY two of the 22 prospective parliamentary candidates selected in place of retiring Conservative MPs are women, a tally made yesterday shows.

Angela Browning has been picked as the prospective parliamentary candidate for Tiverton, where Robin Maxwell-Hyslop had a majority of 9,212 (16.9 per cent) over the Alliance in 1987.

Angela Knight, described by fellow candidates as a gritty Sheffield councillor, takes on the 9,754 (16.5 per cent) majority in Erewash, Derbyshire. She won selection within weeks of featuring in a television programme on the difficulties facing women politicians. Mrs Browning, a training consultant, ran Labour's Goyaeth Dunwoody to just 1,092 votes at Crewe and Nantwich last time.

The next election, therefore, does not seem likely to increase the proportion of Conservative women MPs. Only 16 other women were elected as Tory MPs in 1987 alongside Margaret Thatcher.

Thirty-one Conservative members have announced their intention of standing down at the next election or, in one or two cases, have been gently nudged into that decision. Their departure has opened the way for a number of "re-tread" former MPs to seek a return to the Commons. Of the 22 replacements chosen, six are former MPs.

A high mark for persistence goes to Iain Sproat, the one-time junior trade minister. Before the 1983 election he opted out of his marginal Aberdeen South constituency to fight the ostensibly safer Roxburgh and Berwickshire, only to see his former seat held by his replacement, Gerry Malone, while he lost Roxburgh to a Liberal, Archibald Kirkwood. Perhaps in consequence, Mr Sproat found himself sitting out the last parliament, but he has been selected to inherit the 12,082 (21.3 per cent) majority of Sir Julian Ridsdale in Harwich.

Mr Malone, a former whip who lost the Aberdeen seat in 1987, has come south of the border too, to win selection for the safer Winchester. Michael Ancram, the former junior Scottish Office minister who lost Edinburgh South in 1987, has taken the same trail so become prospective parliamentary candidate for Devizes.

Another former minister who can expect a safe return to parliament is Mark Robinson, the Welsh Office junior who lost Newport West in 1987 and who inherits a 17.5 per cent majority at Somerton and Frome, another seat where the Alliance ran second last time. Richard Ottaway, the former member for Nottingham North, has won selection for Croydon South and Warren Hawkesley, formerly the member for The Wrekin, has been picked to follow Sir Richard Stokes at Halesowen and Stourbridge.

Tory ex-MPs defeated in 1987 who have not yet succeeded in being selected for a new seat despite an active search, are Geoff Lawler (Bradford North), Piers Merchant (Newcastle upon Tyne Central), Peter Bruinvels (Leicester East) and Roy Galley (Halifax). Another, Richard Hickmet (Glanford and Scunthorpe), was on the short list for Scarborough where they were selecting at the weekend.

Steve Norris, who lost his Oxford East seat in 1987, is back in the Commons, having won the Epping Forest by-

Retiring MP	Constituency	New candidate
William Bonyon	Milton Keynes	Mark Robinson
Robert Boscawen	Somerton and Frome	Gerry Malone
John Browne	Winchester	Bernard Jenkin
Sir Anthony Buck	Colchester N	Richard Ottaway
Sir William Clark	Croydon S	Liam Fox
Sir Paul Dean	Woodspring	Edward Garnier
Sir John Farr	Harborough	Oliver Letwin
Sir Geoffrey Finsberg	Hampstead and Highgate	Michael Trend
Sir Alan Glyn	Windsor and Maidenhead	
Sir Philip Goodhart	Beckenham	
Sir Eldon Griffiths	Bury St Edmunds	Richard Spring
Christopher Hawkins	High Peak	Charles Hendry
Michael Latham	Rutland and Melton	Alan Duncan
Sir Ian Lloyd	Havant	David Willetts
Sir Michael McNair-Wilson	Newbury	
Robin Maxwell-Hyslop	Tiverton	Angela Browning
Sir Anthony Meyer	Clwyd NW	
Norman Miscampbell	Blackpool North	Harold Elletson
Sir Charles Morrison	Devizes	Michael Ancram
David Mudd	Falmouth and Camborne	Sebastian Coe
Sir David Price	Eastleigh	Stephen Milligan
Robert Rhodes James	Cambridge	Mark Bishop
Nicholas Ridley	Cirencester/Tewkesbury	
Sir Julian Ridsdale	Harwich	Iain Sproat
Peter Roat	Erewash	Angela Knight
Sir Michael Shaw	Scarborough	
Sir John Stokes	Halesowen & Stourbridge	Warren Hawkesley
Sir John Stradling Thomas	Monmouth	
Peter Walker	Worcester	
Sir Dennis Walters	Westbury	
Sir George Younger	Ayr	Phil Gallie

election. Michael Hirst is sticking with the Strathkelvin and Bearsden seat he lost to Labour by 2,452 votes last time.

Some of the others selected are already known in the world of politics despite not having been in the Commons before. The athlete Sebastian Coe, who fights Falmouth and Camborne, clearly starts with an advantage over his contemporaries in any chase to become minister of sport.

Phil Gallie, who has the unenviable task of defending Ayr, the seat where the former Scottish secretary George Younger hung on by 182 votes in 1987, is an elder of the Church of Scotland and chairman of the western area Scottish Tories. He moved the controversial conference motion demanding that Conservatives in Northern Ireland be allowed to affiliate to the national party.

David Willetts (Havant) and Oliver Letwin, who must beat off the challenge of the actress Glenda Jackson in Hampstead, are well known as ideas men. Both have worked in the Policy Unit at Downing Street. Oliver Letwin, an Old Etonian, was once an adviser to Sir Keith Joseph at the education department and is the author of a book on privatisation.

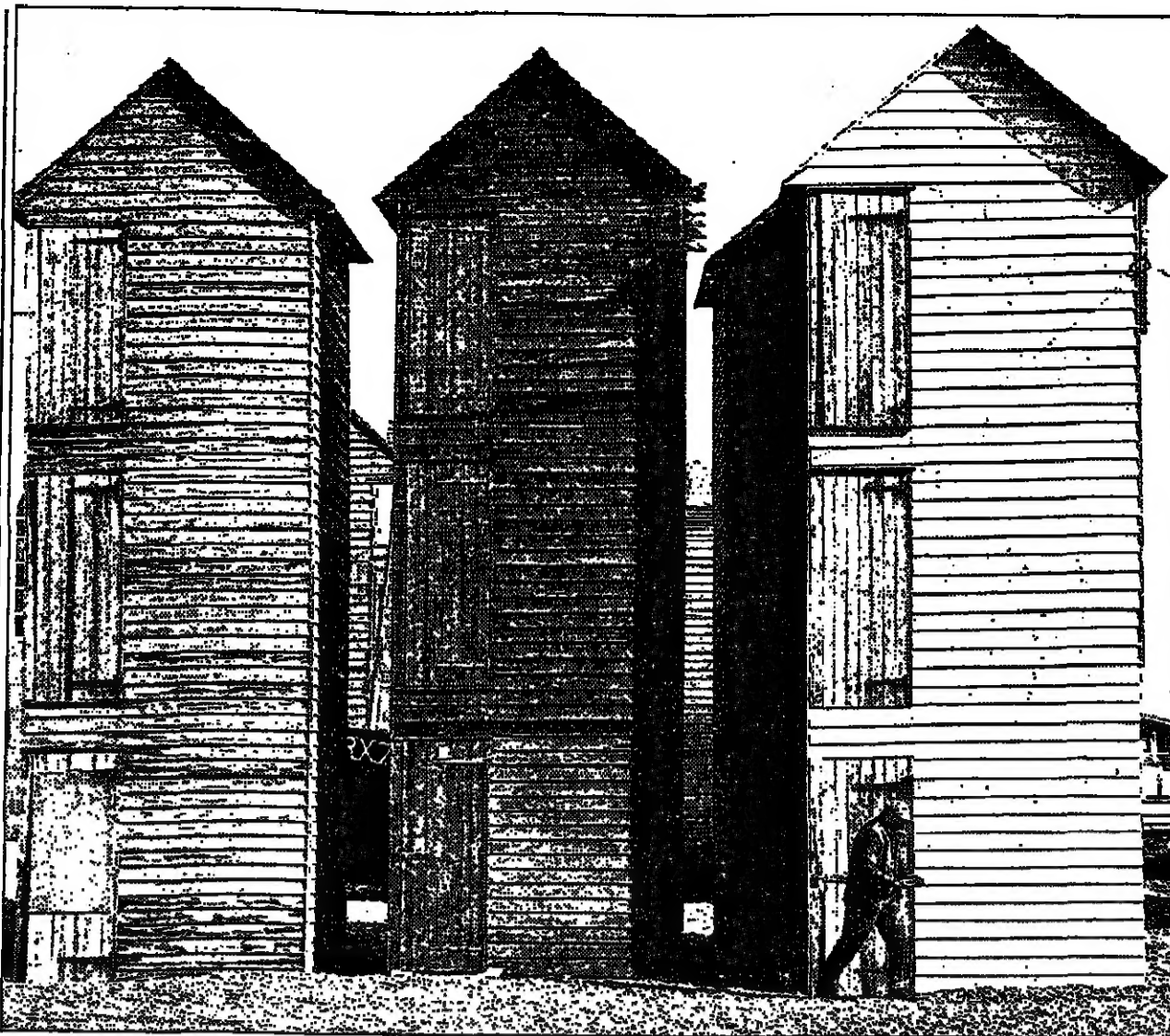
Mr Willetts provides much of the intellectual fizz at the Centre for Policy Studies and was on the prime minister's briefing team at the last election. He and Mr Malone, who won notoriety as the floor speaker demanding rapid introduction of the poll tax at a recent Tory conference, are seen by contemporaries as clear candidates for a future cabinet.

Another with inside track experience is Charles Hendry. A former political adviser to Tony Newton at the departments of trade and industry and social security, he put up an effective fight at the mining seat of Mansfield, running the Labour candidate to 56 votes.

Although former journalists do not have an outstanding record of advancement in the Commons, Stephen Milligan, the BBC's European correspondent until his selection for Eastleigh in Hampshire, will have the advantage of a well-known television face. Michael Trend, a Daily Telegraph leader writer and member of the Spectator set, will fight Windsor and Maidenhead. Neither is likely to have had professional need of Edward

Garnier, the barrister with a blossoming libel practice who fights Harborough. A number of seats where Conservative members have announced their intention of standing down are yet to select a prospective parliamentary

candidate. These include the seats being vacated by the former cabinet ministers Peter Walker (Worcester) and Nicholas Ridley (Cirencester and Tewkesbury). Worcester chooses at the end of September. So does Milton Keynes.



The calm waters of the Hastings fishing community have been ruffled by the introduction of the uniform business rate which has increased charges on these fishermen's huts by nearly 3,000 per cent (Mark Sonster writes). For two

centuries the tall wooden buildings were used to dry nets, but since the advent of synthetic nets they have become stores and a tourist attraction. The fishermen, who used to pay rates of as little as £7 a year, now face bills of

up to £200. They have either refused to pay or have asked for a reassessment. Ironically, money was the reason for the huts' odd shape. About a hundred years ago, the fishermen built them high to avoid ground rent increases.

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Sea search for three

A sea search was mounted off the coast of southwest Scotland yesterday for a small boat with a man and two teenagers aboard. Emergency services were alerted when the 15ft boat failed to return after leaving Drummole, Dumfries and Galloway, for a fishing trip that had been due to last about two hours.

The Portpatrick and Donaghadee lifeboats, the Stranraer and Port William inshore rescue boats, a helicopter sent from HMS Gannet and coastguards began a search of the Luce Bay area.

Viking quest

Archaeologists are today to lift the weathered stump of a 1,000-year-old stone cross in the Stainmore Pass, near the A66 in Co Durham, to see whether it marks the grave of Eric Bloodaxe, a Viking king, as legend suggests.

Cancer study

An investigation is under way into why four firemen serving at the Copnor fire station at Portsmouth, Hampshire, have developed a rare form of ear cancer.

Pilot named

Police yesterday named a pilot killed in a crash at the South Wales Gliding Club, near Usk, Gwent, as Angelos Yorkas, aged 34, of Weston-super-Mare, Avon. He died while practising recovery from a spin.

Power plan

Proposals for a gas-fired power station at the Sellafield nuclear processing complex in Cumbria go before planners on Wednesday. British Nuclear Fuels, which runs the site, says that it will be operational in 1993.

Bus scheme

A pioneering women-only bus service in Bradford, West Yorkshire, is to be extended for three months. The Home-runner door-to-door minibus scheme was set up in November after survey revealed that fears of attack stopped many women from using buses at night.

Theft enquiry

Eleven staff have been suspended at Newbury post office in Berkshire while an internal enquiry into theft allegations is carried out. The rest of the staff of about 120 are working overtime to maintain postal services.

Arson hunt

Police are seeking an arsonist who set fire to 14 cars in less than an hour early yesterday at Bletchley, near Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire. Nine vehicles were burnt out.

Bond winners

The National Savings Premium Bonds weekly draw winners are: £100,000, bond number 22KW 755998, winner lives in Mansfield; £50,000, 10LW 453224 (Bedfordshire); £25,000, 77N 065837 (West Midlands).

Tough-talking visionary gives way to seasoned diplomat

FROM PETER STOTHARD
IN ASPEN, COLORADO

AS EARLY as April, the prime minister's advisers had seen her Aspen speech as an opportunity to make a significant pronouncement on foreign affairs. For diplomatic pragmatists, it was an opportunity finally to convince the American political community of Britain's wholehearted commitment to Europe.

But for some of her closest advisers, it was the occasion to reassert Britain's moral authority in a world whose rapid changes Mrs Thatcher had often seemed to greet with more worry than delight. As more and more countries tried

to join the list of democratic nations, it was seen as the job of the world's most experienced democracy to set out the pattern and pitfalls.

Her words succeeded in reassuring some of the mandarins of America that Britain's aim was to strengthen Europe and not to stand apart from it. Although often repeated in London, it is a message that still needed to be delivered in the United States.

She left out the harsher language that had characterised her famous Bruges speech in 1988. She stated that Britain's inalienable place in European culture: that part of the Bruges doctrine which tended to be ignored in the

concentration on the conflict with Brussels. And she went on to set the British experience as the cornerstone of the new, broader Europe of free democratic countries.

In calling for "a European magna carta" to be agreed at this autumn's Paris summit of the 35-nation Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, she is unlikely to please the French. As President Mitterrand sees it, if anyone is to insist on the basic rights of free speech, property and worship for "every European citizen", it is hardly Mrs Thatcher. British officials made clear that the use of the phrase Magna Carta was an attempt only to entrench the

values already contained in the CSCE charter. But many may not see it that way.

In Brussels, the irritation may be compounded by the clearest possible link between widening EC membership and preventing its institutional ties becoming too deep. Mrs Thatcher challenged her European partners "to declare unequivocally that they are ready to accept all the countries of Eastern Europe as members".

The prime minister seized the opportunity at Aspen of adding an important rider about Britain's "distinctive" point of view. It was of "supreme importance to Britain", she said, that Europe

should "always seek the closest possible partnership with the United States". She did not claim directly that Britain had any special role in binding America to Europe: she has learnt how sensitive George Bush's America is to suggestions that the exclusive relationship lives on.

This week she hardly needed to make such special claims. Last Thursday in Aspen, on the day that Iraq invaded Kuwait, President Bush had told the prime minister that for ten years "America has known no better friend of freedom anywhere in the world". In a self-deprecating aside, he said he had been "very comforted" by the presence of the prime minister at his mountain-side press conference, "answering the toughest questions".

The president was right. Mrs Thatcher did articulate the toughest issues of the threat to small states from unopposed aggression, and the paramount need for international solidarity against President Saddam Hussein.

Mr Bush was hesitant by comparison. The prime minister yesterday reciprocated by saying that the president's speech to the conference had been "marvellous".

Even before the invasion, Mrs Thatcher had intended to devote a substantial section of her speech to the problems of

peacekeeping in an age in which superpower influence was on the wane. The prime minister has never been a notable admirer of the United Nations, but she has come round to the view that there is no alternative to improving its powers and responsibilities.

She remains critical of the influence within the UN of countries whose democratic credentials are based more on theory than on practice. She drew attention yesterday to the manifest failures of Bosnia in the 1990s. She pointed out how Britain had rightly believed itself to be a free country at the beginning of the

20th century even though it had entered the first world war with only 30 per cent of its population permitted to vote.

In the first draft of the speech that arrived at Aspen there were, however, much tougher words about the UN, an organisation which she intended to say had been corrupted by "double talk". By the time of the speech's delivery yesterday, nobody would have recommended too many home truths about the UN or the countries whose unanimous support was now necessary to ensure successful retaliation against Iraq.

The visionary Mrs Thatcher stood back a little. The diplomat in her moved forward.

Shaping the global community for a new epoch

Edited text of Mrs Thatcher's speech on *Shaping a new global community*, delivered at the Aspen Institute yesterday after she received its Statesman Award

It is a great honour to receive the Aspen Institute's Statesman Award. The only two previous recipients have been men of the highest distinction, both associated with different aspects of Europe: Jean Monnet with the founding of the European Community; and Willy Brandt with Germany's reconciliation with its eastern neighbours. As a European and a passionate admirer of all that the nations of Europe have given the world in art, in literature, in political ideas, it is a privilege to be in such company.

Britain's destiny lies in Europe as a full member of the Community. We shall not be standing on the sidelines or, as you would say, watching from the bleachers. On the contrary, we shall bring to it our own distinctive point of view, practical and down-to-earth. We fight hard for what we believe in:

- a Europe based on willing co-operation between independent sovereign states;
- a Europe which is an expression of economic freedom, without which political freedom could not endure;
- a Europe which rejects central control and its associated bureaucracy;
- a Europe which does not resort to protectionism but remains open to the outside world;
- and, of supreme importance for Britain, a Europe which always seeks the closest possible partnership with the United States.

You have chosen for this conference the theme of "Shaping a New Global Community". That theme reflects the boldness, energy and vision of this remarkable country which has led the free world for over four decades. The willingness to think ahead on a world scale, when many countries are self-absorbed, pre-occupied, even obsessed with their regional problems, is very refreshing and very necessary.

The president gave you his vision of the way ahead in a marvellous speech on Thursday. Anyone who had doubts - and I certainly had none - about America's willingness to continue to give leadership to the world will realise how wrong they were.

I am an undivided admirer of American values and the American dream; and I believe they will continue to inspire not just the people of the US but millions

6 American values will continue to inspire millions upon millions across the face of the globe

upon millions across the face of the globe. Your theme is also very timely, because it has been given to us, in the last decade of this century, to fashion a new global community.

For today we are coming to realise that an epoch in history is over: an epoch which began in 1946 when an American President and a former British Prime Minister shared a platform here in the United States at Fulton, Missouri. They saw with foreboding what Winston Churchill famously called an Iron Curtain coming down across Europe. And they forged the great Western Alliance, which bound us together through a common sense of danger to the lives of free peoples.

For more than 40 years that Iron Curtain remained in place. Few of us expected to see it lifted in our lifetime. Yet with great suddenness, the impossible has happened. Communism is broken, utterly broken.

Soviet citizens are talking democracy. The mayors of Moscow and Leningrad discuss Milton Friedman. Anyone who talks to Mr Gorbachev and other Soviet leaders recognises a complete change in the nature of their aspirations. We don't see this new Soviet Union as an enemy, but as a country groping its way towards freedom. We no longer have to view the world through the prism of East-West relations. The Cold War is over.

As the Iron Curtain goes up, a new drama unfolds before us, one in which we are both the authors and the players. Our freedom of action is enlarged. Our horizons broaden. The unity and strength which we in the West have found from joining together in defence can now be turned to serve more positive and ambitious purposes.

The first and most exalted of these is to create a world in which true democracy and the rule of law are extended far and wide.

In its heyday communism believed that it would inevitably dominate the world, subsuming all national feeling and everything which gives life its infinite variety, replacing it with what was alleged to be a scientific system of conformity and uniformity. The very inhumanity and arrogance of the proposition makes one wonder how anyone could ever have believed in it. For communism is so plainly contrary to the human spirit.

Not that there is anything inevitable about the spread of democracy. If anything, the difficulties of sustaining it are greatly underestimated. The heavy sense of freedom which comes from throwing off totalitarian rule is short-lived. Building a true democracy is a lengthy and painstaking task.

It is easy enough to transfer the institutions of democracy from one country to another, as Britain did to much of Africa in the 1960s. But it soon becomes apparent that that is no guarantee that democracy as we know it will be practised. The one-party state in which there is no possibility of choosing an alternative government is hardly what we mean by democracy.

What are the tenets of true democracy? For me they are:

- first, a sense of personal responsibility. People need to realise that they are not just pawns on a chess-board, to be moved around at the whim of politicians. They can influence their destiny by their own efforts;
- second, democracy means limitation of the powers of government and giving people the greatest possible freedom. In the end the strength of a society depends not on the big battalions but on the foot-soldiers: on the willingness of ordinary men and women, who don't seek fame or glory or high office, to play an active part in their community, not as conscripts but as volunteers;
- third, democracy and freedom are about more than the ballot and universal suffrage. At the beginning of this tumultuous century, Britain rightly believed herself a free country. Yet we went into the first world war with only a 30 per cent franchise.

A strong rule of law is the essential underpinning of democracy. The steady growth of the common law over centuries, the process by which statute law is passed by an elected parliament or Congress, the independence of the judiciary: these are as much the pillars of democracy as its parliamentary institutions.

- and the fourth essential is an economy based on market principles and a right to private property. Wealth is not created by regulation and instruction, but by ordinary enterprising people.

It is hard for those who have only experienced life in totalitarian societies to think in these terms, because it is outside anything they have ever known. That is why one sometimes wonders whether some of the countries trying to introduce economic reform have yet understood what a market economy is really about.

So the challenge of spreading democracy and the rule of law is an awesome one. But we must not be pessimistic. I will take the united efforts of the West to shape a new global community, based on democracy, the rule of law and market principles. We need a plan of campaign. And I suggest these should be its main elements.

1. At the East-West summit of 35 nations to be held in the autumn I propose that we should agree on a European Magna Carta to entrench for every European citizen, including those of the Soviet Union, the basic rights which we in the West take for granted. We must enshrine for every individual:

- freedom of speech and thought, of worship, of access to the law, of the market place;
- freedom to participate in genuinely democratic elections, to own property, to maintain nationhood; and
- freedom from fear of an over-mighty state.

2. Next we must bring the new democracies of Eastern Europe into closer association with the institutions of Western Europe.

I propose that the Community should declare unequivocally that it is ready to accept all the countries of Eastern Europe as members if they want to join, and when democracy has taken root and their economies are capable of sustaining membership. We can't say in one breath that they are part of Europe, and in the next our European Community Club is so exclusive that we won't admit them.

It will be some time before they are ready for membership: so we are offering them intermediate steps such as association agreements. But the option of eventual membership should be clearly, openly and generously on the table. The European Community has reconciled antagonisms within Western Europe: it should now help to overcome divisions between East and West in Europe.

This does not mean that the further development of the existing Community has to be put on ice. Far from it. The completion of the single market by 1992 will be an enormous change, one of the biggest since the Community began in 1957. It should herald a fair and open Europe and one which should be immensely attractive to the newly free peoples of Eastern Europe. The same is true of closer co-operation in foreign policy. But if instead we set off down the path of giving more and more powers to



Mrs Thatcher meeting a group of leading physicists during a visit to the Aspen Centre for Physics in Colorado at the weekend. The prime minister was cutting short her US visit because Iraq's invasion of Kuwait

highly centralised institutions, which are not democratically accountable, then we should be making it harder for the Eastern Europeans to join.

They have not thrown off central command and control in their own countries only to find them reincarnated in the European Community. With their new freedom, their feelings of patriotism and national identity are flooding out again. Their newly restored parliaments are full of vitality. We must find a structure for the Community which accommodates their diversity and preserves their traditions, their institutions, their nationhood.

And we need to do this without introducing the concept of first and second class membership of the Community, which would be divisive and defeat much of the purpose of bringing their countries into Europe.

3. All the messages we are getting indicate that the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe desperately want to have the policies of economic freedom but do not know how to acquire them.

Many of us are providing practical assistance through know-how funds and joint ventures. But such is the scale of the problem that we shall need to devise new and more imaginative ways to help. For example, we might identify a whole sector of the Soviet economy, such as transport and distribution or food processing or oil exploration or the

banking system, and offer to help run it on market principles, to demonstrate what can be achieved.

After all the Soviet Union has natural wealth. It's not resources it lacks, but the capacity to turn them to advantage. One day the Soviet Union will be a highly prosperous country - and so will China - and it's not too soon to be thinking how to bring them into the world economy. But the most difficult step is for governments which have been accustomed to running a regimented economy to think in a different way.

If we can begin to associate them with the international institutions which have done so much to help ensure our own prosperity, in particular the Gatt and the IMF, that could make it easier for them.

We might also bring the Soviet Union gradually into closer association with the economic summit. Britain will be hosting next year's meeting in London. If my colleagues agree, I would not be averse to taking a first step along that road on that occasion.

4. There is a further crucial point. None of this could be contemplated unless we in the West had been resolute to

maintain a secure defence. The fact that our peoples were willing to bear the burdens, sustain the expense and brave the dangers of defence for over 40 years is a proof of how much they value liberty and justice.

We failed to do this after the first world war. Instead armies were disbanded, weapons laid aside, and American forces went home. The result was once again world war - war in Europe and war in the Pacific - and a whole generation paid a terrible price.

After the second world war we were wiser. We threatened no one but kept up our defences. We halted the great expansion of communism. Today nations and people are free who would otherwise be in bondage were it not for our perseverance, and above all that of the US. But now, in the moment of success, it's wise to be cautious. History has seen too many false springs.

The Soviet Union remains a formidable military power. Even the Russian Republic on its own would be the largest country in the world, stretching from the Baltic to the Pacific across eleven time zones.

Moreover, with the spread of ballistic missiles and chemical weapons, it is all too likely we shall face ugly situations in other parts of the world. We shall continue to need Nato. And that means we shall continue to need American forces in Europe - in your own interests as well as ours. Do you remember

some lines from T S Eliot's *Chorus from the Rock*? "It is hard for those who live near a police station to believe in the triumph of violence. Do you think that the faith has conquered the world and that lions no longer need keepers? Do you need to be told that whatever has been, can still be?"

As we look to the future, there are other issues which call for a much higher level of international co-operation, more intensive than anything we have achieved so far: the spread of drugs, terrorism, intimidation, disease, a decaying environment. No country is immune from them.

Our ability to come together to stop or limit damage to the world's environment will be the greatest test of how far we can act as a world community.

Science is still finding its way and some uncertainties remain. But we know that very high population growth is putting enormous pressure on the earth's resources. Primitive methods of agriculture are extending deserts and destroying tropical forests. As they disappear, nature's capacity to correct its own imbalances is seriously affected.

We know, too, that our industries and way of life have done severe damage to the ozone layer. And we know that, within the life-time of our grandchildren, the surface temperature of the earth will be higher than at any time for 150,000 years: the rate of change of temperature will be higher than in the last 10,000 years; and the sea-level will rise six times faster than has been seen in the last century.

The costs of doing nothing, of a policy of wait and see, will be much higher than those of taking preventive action now to stop the damage getting worse. And they will be counted not only in dollars, but in human misery as well. Spending on the environment is like spending on defence: if you don't do it in time, it may be too late.

Most of us have been brought up to give praise and thanks for the miracles of Creation. But we cannot give thanks with our words, if our deeds undermine the beauty of the world to which we are born.

The same lessons apply to the evil of drugs. We must use all means to warn young people of the blandishments, which will be used to entice them into drug addiction. We must run home that to succumb would utterly ruin their lives and devastate their families. The contemptible and callous men who prey upon the young for their own material gain must be hunted ruthlessly until they are brought to justice.

This problem is not limited to a handful of countries. There are now 40 million addicts worldwide and the number continues to rise.

We have to grapple with every aspect of the problem: the demand, the production, the money-laundering, the international networks.

Hard as we have tried, we are still far from success. There's only one way to attack the problem, wherever it occurs, and that is by bringing together all the resources and knowledge of each country to slay this dragon.

That goes for terrorism and intimidation too. The terrorists fight with the weapons of war. We respond with the rule of law. The dice are loaded against the law-abiding and the innocent.

Terrorism will only be beaten when all civilised governments resolve that they will never harbour and give safe haven to terrorists. Anything less than a proven total dedication to hunting down the terrorists within, should make those countries the outcasts of the world.

Intensified international co-operation is needed just as much on more familiar problems. A world which formed itself into inward-looking blocs of nations would be taking a sad step backwards.

Yet I see a real danger of that: a European bloc based on the European monetary union; a western-hemisphere bloc based on a US-Canada-Latin America free trade area; and a Pacific bloc with Japan and some of the East and

North-East Asia countries. Such an arrangement would encourage protectionism and stifle trade at the very time we need to be driving forward to a positive outcome from the Uruguay Round of world trade negotiations.

That means we shall all need to make concessions, particularly on agriculture, where we are all far from perfect. To slide back into protectionism would be damaging for all of us, and the developing countries most of all.

Of course they need help, particularly the poorest. They all seek investment. But there is going to be unprecedented demand, and therefore competition, for the world's savings over the next decade. When you look at the problems of developing countries, you frequently find it is the politics which have led the economics astray.

These problems don't always stem from lack of resources or natural wealth or some other similar handicap. Quite often they are the result of bad government, corruption, the breakdown of law and order, or cynical promises which could never be kept. And that is not a view which I have invented. It comes from an excellent report by the World Bank.

The problems will not be solved by abstractions such as a new international economic order: nor by the verbose vocabulary of the North-South dialogue. The developing countries certainly need sustained help. But they also need democracy, good government and sensible economic policies which attract foreign investment. That will go to the countries which offer the best prospect of stability, which welcome enterprise, and give a fair rate of return, with the right to repatriate a reasonable proportion of the profits. Investment won't come into a country unless it can also get out.

All these problems underline the need for an effective global institution where we can agree on certain basic standards, resolve disputes and keep the peace. We thought we had created that at San Francisco in 1946 when we founded the United Nations. Sadly it has not quite worked out that way.

Iraq's invasion of Kuwait defies every principle for which the UN stands. If we let it succeed, no small country can ever feel safe again. The law of the jungle takes over.

The United Nations must assert its authority and apply a total economic embargo unless Iraq withdraws without delay. The United States and Europe

6 We can rediscover the determination that attended the founding of the United Nations

both support this. But to be fully effective it will need the support of all the United Nations' members. They must stand up and be counted. Because a vital principle is at stake: an aggressor must never be allowed to get his way.

As East-West confrontation diminishes, as problems which have long dominated the UN's agenda such as apartheid in South Africa are being resolved, we have an opportunity to rediscover the determination that attended the founding of the United Nations. And the best time is now, with our present very able and widely respected Secretary-General.

It was never realistic to think of the United Nations as a world government. But we can make it a place where truth is told and objective standards prevail. The five permanent members of the Security Council have acquired authority in recent times by working together. Not enough, but a basis on which to build.

Some would say all this is a triumph of hope over experience. But let us not be hypnotised by the past, otherwise we shall always shrug our shoulders and walk away. Shakespeare reminded us:

"Our doubts are traitors And make us lose the good we oft might win, By fearing to attempt."

I thank you most warmly for giving me this occasion to explain how I believe we can shape the future as we move into the third millennium. If we are to do better than our best, Europe and the United States must continue to make common cause.

Winston Churchill expressed so well the positive approach we shall need in his description of the Journey of Life:

"Let us be contented with what has happened to us and thankful for all we have been spared. Let us treasure our joys but not bewail our sorrows. The glory of light cannot exist without its shadows. Life is a whole, and good and ill must be accepted together."

We must work together for more joy and less sorrow: to ensure more light and less shadow. If we achieve that, we shall have done well.

Yeltsin and Gorbachev agree on reform plan

FROM REUTER IN MOSCOW

SETTING aside their differences, President Gorbachev and his long-time critic, Boris Yeltsin, have opened the way to rapid transformation of the Soviet economy and a radical shift in the balance of power.

A surprise economic reform agreement signed by the Soviet leader and the parliamentary president of the Russian Federation also illustrates vividly the waning influence of the Communist party.

Mr Gorbachev signed the decree, setting up a team of experts to produce a programme for a transition to a market economy, at his Black Sea holiday home this weekend. The first document

jointly signed by the two, it was hailed by reformers as a long-awaited radical shift by Mr Gorbachev. Konstantin Rosev, of the pro-market business weekly *Kommersant*, said that by the agreement the central power represented by Mr Gorbachev "effectively accepted a sharp radicalisation of the coming economic reform".

Under the accord, announced when Mr Yeltsin was also on holiday but still engaged in political negotiations with the rebel Baltic republics, the new programme will be drafted by a group dominated by the economists with few ideological prejudices.

They include Stanislav Shatalin, a member of Mr Gorbachev's presidential council who makes no secret of his social democratic views, and Nikolai Petrakov, adviser to the Kremlin chief but also a strong critic of government reform plans.

From Mr Yeltsin's stable come Boris Fyodorov, aged 32, the finance minister of the new Russian government, and its economic reform chief, Grigory Yavlinsky.

The team will work under the supervision of President Gorbachev and Mr Yeltsin and present its "concept" of the transition to a market economy by September 1 — just before the country's parliament meets for its autumn session.

"Any programme for switching to market regulations will need wide support," said Mikhail Berger of the strongly reformist *Izvestia* newspaper, once the mouthpiece of the Soviet government but now a focus for popular views.

"But joint efforts and co-ordinated action by the two undoubtedly most authoritative leaders in our country will ensure the programme will have a new credit of trust, and, given all our problems, gives it a greater chance of success."

The new programme will replace two earlier variants of reform put forward by the government of the prime minister, Nikolai Ryzhkov.

Kommersant's Mr Rosev said this weekend that some Soviet specialists believed the agreement meant the government itself would have to resign in the autumn.

Soviet and foreign analysts say Mr Gorbachev's truce with the man who labelled him "the lover of half-measures" signals that he believes he has side-tracked conservatives in the party. It also indicates the Soviet president's alarm at the rapid shift by the 15 republics of the union towards producing their own economic plans.

However, analysts say, Mr Gorbachev's move also represents recognition that he and Mr Yeltsin are doomed to work together.

● Radical elected: Armenia has elected a radical nationalist leader, Levon Ter-Petrosyan, to head its parliament. Mr Ter-Petrosyan, aged 45, of the radical Armenian National Movement, beat the Communist party chief, Vladimir Movsisyan, in the vote, which was a victory for supporters of the volatile republic's drive for political and economic sovereignty.

The result came as the KGB reported continuing ethnic violence in Armenia. On Saturday a police officer was killed when a KGB office was attacked. (Reuter)

Immediate Indian poll ruled out

Delhi — Vishwanath Pratap Singh, the Indian prime minister, has ruled out an immediate general election as his government embarks on a new legislative drive designed to restore his battered authority and bolster support among the rural masses (Christopher Thomas writes).

He summoned senior officials to meetings at the weekend to work out an intensive legislative programme for the monsoon session of parliament starting tomorrow.

Paper attacked

Windhoek — Unknown attackers firebombed the offices of the newspaper *Namibian* here, causing damage but no injuries, staff said. The newspaper last week alleged that a coup was being plotted against the government. (Reuter)

Ferry blaze

Helsinki — The Swedish car ferry *Mariella*, en route to Stockholm with 1,200 people on board, was towed back here after an engine-room fire had been put out. There were no injuries. (Reuter)

Strike halted

Tegucigalpa — Honduran troops ousted about 10,000 striking workers who had occupied the grounds of a US banana company for 41 days. At least two workers were wounded by gunfire, a union spokesman claimed. (AP)

Carrier missing

Tokyo — An 80,225-ton Greek ore carrier with 31 people on board is missing in rough seas off Japan after taking shelter to avoid a typhoon. Its empty lifeboat has been found. (AP)

Bhutto challenge

Islamabad — Benazir Bhutto, the Pakistan prime minister, faces a serious challenge to her government after combined opposition parties decided to move a no-confidence motion in the National Assembly.

Migrants curb

Canberra — Australia is to crack down on illegal immigrants, whose numbers have risen 50 per cent to 90,000 in the past 12 months. Illegals found from November 1 will be deported and excluded from re-entry for up to five years. (Reuter)

SDI space shield is pierced by Senate

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

THE Senate has voted for a radical restructuring of the Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI), ordering a shift in emphasis from research into space-based interceptors to the development of less exotic land-launched defences against incoming missiles.

The 54-44 vote, which also involved a \$1 billion cut in the administration's \$4.7 billion request for SDI research funding next year, was strongly opposed by the White House and risked a presidential veto of the entire \$289 billion defence spending bill, which the Senate endorsed by 79 to 16. However, the administration can expect no support from the House of Representatives, which has always been much more hostile to the programme than the Senate and which is expected to endorse a proposal from its armed services committee to cut funding to \$2.9 billion.

The Senate vote is the latest blow to the beleaguered programme initiated by President Reagan in 1983 to provide what he then described as an impenetrable shield that would

destroy incoming missiles before they could reach US soil. Having endorsed spending of nearly \$20 billion since then, Congress has grown highly sceptical of such an ambitious aim, and the Senate vote reflected a new determination to stop issuing the administration with "blank cheques" and to begin exerting some control of its own over the programme.

"We will not give the Pentagon a cheque for \$3.6 billion to spend any way it wants," said Jeff Bingaman, the Democratic senator from New Mexico who co-sponsored the amendment to direct SDI research into two specific areas — long-term directed energy weapons systems involving laser technology and ground-based "kinetic-kill" weapons. "Kinetic kill" weapons are missiles without warheads which are intended to destroy incoming missiles on impact. Funding for the so-called "brilliant pebbles" concept of having thousands of small rockets in orbit to seek out and destroy Soviet missiles was frozen.



Victims remembered: a young girl laying flowers on a memorial in a Hiroshima park yesterday on the eve of the 45th anniversary of the atom bomb attack which killed 153,200 people in the Japanese city. More than twenty thousand of those victims were Koreans

Kohl cuts short holiday to lobby on vote timetable

FROM IAN MURRAY IN BONN

AN EARLY all-German election, backed by both the East and West German governments last Friday, is looking increasingly unlikely. Nevertheless early unity, to help fend off the deepening East German economic state, remains a distinct possibility.

Helmuth Kohl, the Christian Democrat (CDU) West German chancellor, breaks his holiday tomorrow for

urgent talks with the opposition Social Democrats (SPD). He is seeking their support for a constitutional change which will enable all-German elections to be held six weeks early on October 14.

Oskar Lafontaine, the SPD's candidate for chancellor, has already condemned it as "fraudulent".

The SPD is quite prepared to see reunification proceed speedily so that the Kohl government would be held

responsible for the economic problems in East Germany. However, it does not want early elections because it believes it will benefit if the disadvantages of reunification start to become clear by December 2, the original date for the election.

Herr Kohl, who agreed last Friday to a proposal from Lothar de Maizière, East Germany's CDU prime minister, to move the date to October 14, is blocked by the present

Basic Law from doing so. As it stands it is impossible to hold the election before November 18, which is only weeks before the original date that a change would be pointless. A two-thirds Bundestag majority is required to change the law and the chancellor must have the support of the SPD.

● BERLIN: A Lufthansa passenger aircraft landed yesterday at Berlin's Schoenefeld airport for the first time since the second world war. (AFP)

ANC 'set to end' armed struggle

FROM RAY KENNEDY IN JOHANNESBURG

A MOOD of high optimism emerged at the weekend over talks today between the South African government and the African National Congress, with predictions that the ANC will announce a ceasefire or even an end to the 30-year "armed struggle".

Only a week ago, when the South African Communist party was officially relaunched, police claimed to have uncovered a communist plot to seize power.

Agreement is almost certain to be reached at the talks in Pretoria on the twin obstacles to further negotiations — the release of an estimated 1,200 political prisoners and the return of some 22,000 exiles, according to Pretoria sources.

Most of the differences have been resolved by a joint working group, which has met regularly since the first round of talks in May. But a plan to ensure that released political prisoners and returning exiles do not add to the spiral of violence has yet to be devised.

If a ceasefire agreement does emerge today it can be considered as a quid pro quo demanded by President de Klerk when he met Nelson Mandela for three hours of hard bargaining last week.

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Standing up for service

Ronald Butt

A fall in government subsidy for the railways is at the heart of the "watchdog" committee last week. One consequence has been a recourse to ill thought-out manpower economies. Overmanning has been replaced by undermanning. The following illustrates the point. Until fairly recently, anyone buying a rail ticket in advance and then unable to travel could obtain a refund without trouble. No longer. My son bought a ticket in advance to avoid having to queue (for which he would not have had time on the day) or to buy a full-price single ticket on the train, where returns or other "discounted" tickets are not sold. Prevented by ill from travelling, he took his ticket for a refund but was told he must produce a doctor's certificate. He therefore wrote to the British Rail chairman pointing out that a doctor was not consulted for every minor illness and asking how passengers should deal with the obvious dilemma.

A reply came from the customer relations manager. He said refunding arrangements had been "tightened" and claimants were asked for "some form of written evidence to corroborate their reason for not using the ticket" because of the increase of fraudulent claims. This deterrent to fraud was saving £1 million a year, though there was a "fine judgment" between "protecting our business" and the effect on "genuine customers". The effect of the change outweighed the inconvenience to genuine claimants. A cheque enclosed for the refund, less £3 for administrative charges, was clearly *ex gratia*.

My son replied that, while he understood the reasons, his questions were unanswered. Should a passenger buy a ticket in advance and risk losing his money if he could not travel for lack of written "corroboration", or should he wait in the queue, with the risk either of missing the train or paying a penal rate on board? Why could BR not do the job of checking and marking its own tickets well enough to make fraud impossible? In a curt three-line reply the customer relations manager said he had nothing to add.

In the watchdog's spirit I pursued the matter with British Rail and was told that more staff were being taken on for issuing and checking tickets. Partly because of unmanned stations, there were more staff on trains checking the tickets, some of whom could even check the validity of suspicious tickets with a hand-held computer. But there was no answer to my question whether the aim was to recruit enough staff to do the job well enough to allow a virtually automatic refund system to be restored. I was simply told that fraud cost £50 million a year and that the "honest majority" were having to pay for the

"dishonest minority". In fact they are paying for inadequate staffing, and to save only £1 million of the £50 million lost by fraud.

An indifference to passenger convenience permeates British Rail. On a sweltering night last summer I waited on Euston station for more than three hours with two of my family who were travelling on the 12.50am sleeper to Glasgow and Oban. Hundreds were on the station. There had been a power failure, which I suppose happens to the best-regulated railways. But at least one might expect some coherent information and decent waiting conditions. There were neither. The information office was shut, nothing useful could be learned from two bemused clerks in the small area office and the indicator board virtually ceased to function. Broadcast announcements about hoped-for departures were vague and mostly inaccurate.

Eventually I found a queue for the Glasgow/Oban train by a chalked-up notice board and (since nothing appeared on the indicator board) asked an official to confirm that this was the right platform. He said it probably was but not certainly. Asked why a queue should be formed before the platform was known, he said it was "a way of keeping people together". The people being kept together included several ladies obviously well into their eighties who stood supporting themselves by holding luggage trolleys. The heat was intense and I counted only 18 seats on the station, some occupied by tramps. There was, of course, no waiting room. The franchised eating places which have replaced proper waiting rooms had long been shut. One member of the station staff said he was ashamed at the lack of concern for passengers' comfort and that BR ran away from problems. If there were waiting rooms or more seats they would be occupied by tramps and it would be expensive to police them. Hence there were no seats.

But why should people have to spend hours standing or sitting on the ground? Why should there not again be waiting rooms, properly inspected, with a reserve of deck chairs for emergencies? Why were there no coherent announcements to enable people to decide whether to go on waiting? Why was there no feeling that anyone was in charge? The moral of these stories (which applies also to London Underground) is that the lack of manpower and facilities on stations and trains, as well as making passengers miserable, is counter-productive economically. Tired, frustrated and angry passengers work less well at their own jobs. People who get decent service give better service themselves. The lack of it, particularly in public utilities, is the great British vicious circle. It has to be broken. We need to end undermanning and restore the value of service.

...and moreover

MATTHEW PARRIS

As all who use buses will know, there are lucky and unlucky bus stops, even on the same route. Wait at one and a bus will come. Wait at another, perhaps only a few hundred yards away, and you will be there forever.

There are London underground stations like that, too, and Whitechapel is one of them. Never start your journey at Whitechapel. Never change trains there. At Whitechapel the universe goes into a small but intense time-war and the east-bound train which was at Tower Hill a moment ago never shows. It has been sucked into a black hole. You wait, and wait, and wait, while all the wixos in east London abuse you.

I was stuck at Whitechapel the other morning. It was 11 - too early for the homeless. I was on the New Cross line, in no hurry, and alone. Sitting on the empty platform, staring across the empty tracks with vision unfocused, a blurred grey movement - very sudden - broke the stillness. I focused. Something was stirring down by the electrified third rail. It was a rat.

The instinctive reaction might be to shudder or draw back. Yet I felt relaxed. After all, this was not my territory, and my temporary accommodation, the platform, was safe. The rat was in his domain, down by the live rails where I had no reason to go. He was in his own world and I in mine. I felt at peace with Whitechapel, and with the rat.

He was relaxed, too, going about his business without regard to me. In some part of himself he knew with an absolute certainty that passengers do not come down to the tracks. So he ignored me while I watched him for the better part of ten minutes very intently.

This was an adolescent rat, only three-quarters grown, and in peak condition. It was difficult to imagine a finer example of the species. His fur was battleship grey, soft, clean and shiny. Beneath it, for there was no fat on him - you could see his muscles working strong, sleek sinews. They rippled the surface of his grey pelt.

He was searching for food. He had finished some crumbs from

a crisp packet and was investigating a sliver of rotten fruit. His tiny feet worked fast and nimbly; each claw as strong as it was feathery, like steel wire. He had learned which rail was live and how to avoid it. He had no fear of trains for he knew their certain path.

The rat's eyes had all the brightness of youth. He could see everything. The slightest movement riveted his whole attention at the instant. He was alert to his whisker tips. Every inch of this lean creature, every part, was on the qui vive. Every part was muscle, speed, reflex, aggression, defence, survival. He was in his element yet ready for anything. To this rat the unexpected was his whole life. He was a destroyer. He relished danger. He was beautiful.

And out of such dirt and decay was brought forth such a creature! So clean and strong, like a bright flame, burning above the rubbish it consumes. Pollution was his meat and drink. Here was nature really working: adapting, discarding, killing, testing and multiplying. We talk of our reverence for the natural world, yet this rat was the glory of the natural world and had reverence for nothing. He was an evolutionary triumph. Not for him the charity of the World Wide Fund for Nature, which protects the threatened. He was not threatened.

Yet are the survivors not the most beautiful of all? I saw a starling, sitting on a tree, his feathers shiny, breast puffed out, singing for all he was worth. Crows - the rats of the air, wonderful birds - flies, ants, bumblebees... each of them the rats of their element. And humans? The rats of our own domain, endlessly resourceful.

Perhaps that is why we hate rats: rivals, too close to home. We treasure instead the exotic failures of the animal kingdom. Harmless, stupid, cuddly pandas - everything we are not; everything that is no threat. Wringing our hands, we grasp dying species to our breasts, misty eyed, and call that "nature".

But that is not nature. Nature is extinction. Nature is survival. Nature is rats, our brothers; and we are nature.

Zbigniew Brzezinski suggests a strategy to curb Saddam Hussein that would not hurt the West

The Tehran card to trump Iraq

The Iraqi conquest of Kuwait threatens two fundamental interests of the West: the steady flow of oil at a price that is not exorbitant and the security of moderate and basically pro-western Arab governments on the Arabian peninsula. These interests are interrelated and both have been put in jeopardy.

With Kuwait under Baghdad's thumb, the Iraqi government will be in a strong position to coerce the other Arab oil producers to follow its lead on pricing decisions, with potentially deleterious consequences for the global economy. At the same time, the display of Iraqi ruthlessness will intensify the sense of insecurity felt by the militarily weak governments in Saudi Arabia and the Emirates. They might come to feel that accommodation with Iraq is the wisest response. After all, Kuwait's reliance on the West did not prove much of a shield.

The West must find a way to assert its interests collectively and credibly. Its difficulty is that ill-considered action might serve one of the West's basic interests while harming the other. Western - or

even solitary American - military action against Iraq could conceivably reassure the other Gulf regimes that they are no longer defenceless, but it would surely result in a major interruption in the flow of oil. Moreover, one must take into account the inherently unforeseeable consequences of any major outbreak of violence in the volatile Middle Eastern region, including the wider impact on the Arab masses of anything even remotely reminiscent of the Anglo-French Suez expedition in 1956. The political destabilisation of the region could well be the longer-term result.

The West should also be wary of the seeming unanimity of the international community's condemnation of Iraq. It is most certainly not a goal of the guarantor powers of international order in the Gulf - a goal it has sought for many decades. Thus Moscow could gain economically and politically from the stand it has adopted.

The West should also take with a grain of salt the advice and

support it is receiving from Israel. Israeli government spokesmen have been quick to proclaim that the Iraqi action validates their long-standing assessment of the Baghdad regime, and the West is now being urged to take the strongest action possible to stem the tide of Iraqi expansionism. Given that the Shamir government has no desire to reach any settlement on the Palestinian issue, a military collision between Iraq and the United States alone or with some western coalition would serve Israeli interests to the hilt.

The West must be clear what its priorities are. Its most immediate interest is to reassure and thus make more secure the vulnerable governments on the Arabian peninsula. This might require the deployment of some western military forces in the region. It could even include the stationing of some American rapid deployment forces in one of the threatened countries. The Iraqi regime must be made to understand that any further act of aggression is likely to generate wider hostilities and an economic blockade. There should be no ambiguity on this, and the

US should even be prepared, as a last resort, to act alone.

The longer-term western strategic goal must be to offset Iraq as the decisive oil power in the region. This cannot be done quickly, but it can be done. Iraq has two major enemies on its borders: Syria and Iran, the latter also an oil producer. The obvious strategy for those determined to be tough with Baghdad is to seek to strengthen them.

Since bringing about the eventual moderation of Iran's current fanaticism is also in the West's strategic interest, a subtle but determined effort to expand western ties with Iran - including even military assistance - should be an integral part of the West's response to the Iraqi regime. In the long run, the Iraqi regime might find itself squeezed geopolitically far more effectively than by a direct western military reaction.

In brief, the Iraqi gambit could become a boomerang, but only if the West calculates its strategy with deliberation as well as determination.

The author was President Carter's national security adviser, 1977-81.

When there's more to black and blue than the bruises

Bernard Levin explains how racist thugs in uniform can be made to think twice before putting the boot in



POLICE COMPLAINTS AUTHORITY

Francis Morley

about, it is not for me to insist that they should give up the practice and try Wagner. But could not their superiors suggest that before kick-off they should pause to scrutinise the quality and identity of the kickers more closely?

Few will be surprised to learn that the policemen involved are still in the Met, and that the Police Complaints Authority may be ready to give its adjudication some time in the reign of King Charles the Fourteenth. But some may be surprised to learn that the total damages awarded in such cases quadrupled in 1988, and increased again by a third in 1989. The overall total of the three years amounts to not much less than a million. And that is the damages only; costs must be added to the figure. It would be naive to suggest that the damages should come out of the wages of the miscreants and their superiors, but a compromise might be found; perhaps after such

a case one of their helicopters or other expensive toys should be taken away from them.

Anyone with power will be tempted to extend it, and since there are people with weak characters in any organisation, there will be policemen who succumb to the temptation to extend their power. Anyone with extended power will likewise be tempted to abuse it, and since the same test governs the greater temptation, there will be policemen who abuse their increment of power. Anyone who abuses power is standing on a cliff-top of corruption, and it is well known that many of those who go near such cliff-tops lose their footing and fall over.

I do not know how to cure the disease of which these cases are the symptom, but I can see one form of treatment, widely applied, which so far from effecting a cure is making the disease worse. This poisoned pill was doled out lav-

ishly in the case of the Seventh Day Adventists, as it has been in many other similar scandals. It is time for the authorities to insist that the prescribing of it must cease, and any surplus supplies returned to the dispensary.

When the four black men had received their damages settlement and their costs, Scotland Yard put out a statement saying that the payments were made "without any admission of guilt", and that "it will be borne in mind that it is only necessary for the plaintiffs to prove a case on the balance of probabilities, and in considering whether an action should be settled, many matters are taken into account".

These are shabby, deceitful words. Are we invited to believe that the Met shelled out £30,000 from nothing but a charitable impulse? Every word and nuance of that statement testifies to the extent of the rot, and a police force

content to rely on such evasion of the truth has forgotten what truth is. There was no need for the Yard to say anything at all; yet it went out of its way to dig itself further into the mire. That, not the guilty policemen, constitutes the disease, and the fatal prescription alike. How do the Met's leaders expect to restore public confidence in the police - a confidence that in recent years has suffered a catastrophic fall - if they demonstrate so clearly their inability to understand why such conduct erodes the confidence even further?

There is an obvious reply, but it is dangerous, and the Met takes care it will remain dangerous. It is for those who have been wronged, and who have been offered compensation with the grubby string of "no guilt" attached, to refuse a settlement which denies culpability. The danger, of course, is in our system of civil law; if a plaintiff refuses a sum offered and the defendant pays into court more than a jury subsequently awards, the plaintiff must pay the costs, often wiping out the damages.

There is, however, a way round that problem, and has the extra merit of testing the Met's good faith. Let the Commissioner announce that from now on, if a plaintiff refuses to take a proffered settlement without admission of guilt, the question of damages shall be left entirely to the jury, with no attempt at a pre-emptive paying-in. The judges cannot be commanded; but I trust that the use of such wessel words would, when the plaintiff won, encourage the bench to increase the damages.

This will not by itself stop policemen ill-treating respectable black men for no better reason than that they haven't ill-treated one since the Thursday before last. But even that problem is soluble, if heed is paid to the advice I gave a few paragraphs back, where I urged the Met's higher ranks to persuade the men on the beat that they should have a good long look at the next man whom they feel like clouting. Otherwise, they will sooner or later march into the station dragging a black man 5ft 2in tall, wearing very peculiar clothes, only to discover, after explaining that the prisoner had got his swollen eyes from a misadventure on the streets, that they have booked, not to say bashed, Archbishop Tutu.

Uncommon alliance

The controversy over rights of way at Greenham Common is about to erupt again as Lord Denning, former Master of the Rolls, and Watership Down author Richard Adams prepare to do battle with the Ministry of Defence.

Denning is urging disgruntled locals with grazing rights on the land to take the MoD to the high court. "I have always championed the rights of the little person against the might of powerful institutions," he says. "I have gone into this issue with the local people and I think there is a good case for judicial review." After failing in attempts to prosecute wandering commoners and peace campaigners under existing by-laws, the MoD has now wheeled out the 1854 Defence Act. This empowers the ministry to requisition any plot of land for military needs. "It's an act of exasperation," Denning says.

Richard Adams, a neighbour and friend of Denning, strongly supports the cause. "I was born here," he says. "I used to go picnicking and mushrooming on the common. Lots of people from the area went courting there. It would be tragic if it all became a thing of the past." Although Adams draws the line at wielding wire cutters in the fashion of the militant peace campaigners, he says he will do all in his power to ensure the common is reopened.

The MoD, unimpressed by the legal and literary heavyweights ranged against it, says: "We have tried to compromise with the

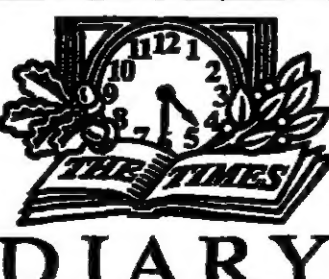
people of Greenham, but we must now proceed with full extinguishment of rights." It might be forced think again were the retired Master of the Rolls to join Adams in a protest tent at the common. But Denning, at 91, says: "I think we are too old for that."

● Mrs Thatcher's early return home because of events in the Gulf has meant the abandonment of a three-day holiday with her son Mark, daughter-in-law Diane and 17-month-old grandson Michael. Mark arrived at Aspen, Colorado, on Saturday, but Diane delayed bringing Michael, the prime minister's pride and joy, fearing the effects of the high altitude. For "We are a grandmother" read "We are disappointed".

Silver lining

For 3,500 families in Britain, the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait at first seemed good news. They are buying their homes through the United Bank of Kuwait, and believed that with the freeing of Kuwait assets, they could withhold their monthly repayments. After all, it's one thing to line the pocket of a friendly Kuwaiti bank manager, quite another to fund Saddam Hussein's aggression.

One man in this apparently fortunate position - is there nothing he will not do to make the news? - is Dominic Lawson, editor of *The Spectator*. "I shall now stop paying my mortgage," he announced last week. "It is a painful thing to do but sometimes one must put principles before business." Also, the United Bank of Kuwait turns out to be a privately-owned British-registered



DIARY

bank which is treated like any other British bank and will continue to operate normally.

Hot Lips Clarke

Lip-readers who watch Parliament on television next term may get a surprise if they peer closely at Kenneth Clarke. In an interview published in *Jazz Express*, the avuncular health secretary admits that his conversation is not always about

Take it easy Ken



the NHS. "Sometimes on the front bench it might look as though we were discussing the cost of nurses' regrading," he says, "but it's more

likely to be 'Giant Steps', the famous John Coltrane tune."

Clarke, who shares a passion for jazz with junior Treasury minister Richard Ryder and political rivals Pat Wall and John Prescott, admits that jazz tends to be anti-establishment and so he has to tread carefully. To see Miles Davis at the last of the GLC's Jazz Against Racism concerts, "I turned my collar up in case they saw a Conservative minister".

Joint exercise

The right arm of the Prince of Wales broke so badly in a polo accident five weeks ago that he is being urged back to full health by one of his favourite comedians.

Apart from conventional get-well messages received at Highgrove, his Gloucestershire home, the Prince has been sent a series of "healing thoughts" by ex-Goon Michael Bentine to speed his recuperation.

Bentine, who will shortly celebrate his 50th anniversary in show business, has been interrupting his current one-man touring show to urge audiences to think positive thoughts for the Prince. "There is so much love out there for him it's a shame not to use it."

Bentine is convinced his unorthodox approach helps. "He has told me before that the subject is well worth investigating, and that more effort should be put into it. I have had a lovely letter from him about my thoughts. He must have gone with his left hand."

The Prince's arm is reported by an official to be improving and "taking its course - naturally".

● Brigitte Bardot, sex goddess turned animal rights tigress, has just publicly mauled one of France's best-known humanists, Germaine-Armande Dubouché, down for the Legion of Honour until Bardot and friends set up a howl of protest over his illegal shooting of migratory birds. Now he has been withdrawn. Watch out, Scotland, on August 12.

Owen haunts again

David Owen may be yesterday's man, but he can still cast a shadow over the future. Liberal Democrats fear he may try to sabotage their annual conference at Blackpool next month by making an announcement on the eve of the opening or on the day of Paddy Ashdown's keynote speech.

Tim Clement-Jones and members of his Lib-DEM communications group are acutely aware that the Blackpool goings-on will get short shrift in the press and on television if Owen, as some believe, announces that he plans to rejoin the Labour party. That would be more than a one-day wonder for a good week after, the news would be dominated by reports of Labour MPs resigning the whip in protest, of revolts in constituency parties, and of deep division in the shadow cabinet.

Particularly frustrating for those who take the threat seriously is the knowledge that they can do nothing about it. They would be advised to adopt the dismissive sang-froid of Des Wilson, the general election campaign director. "We should not give the matter a second thought," he says. "Dr Owen is an ex-politician."

MR

The prime minister yesterday "great special moral support" much greater for a Euro and for about as grooping as these work person take.

Mrs Thatcher turned to her favourite trade. This that of the of monopoly sentiments direction was.

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Mr Willis explanation is now in conclusion report and the press a Willis has own to investigation will tell ra was prepa newspaper stubs.

The sug to the N Scargill happened the end pr Gavin Hill whole pu arrange sequestrate untraceable the books The first Opera com bring thri Minerran ambition called "pe socialist is otherwise will not be opera hou million is from the F will simply The Ba argument night avai Opera-lov the fruits behalf, Br out that, 450 perfor the Basili seats at th than the inferior jo The gra some of w deficits, n Gallic in other field £30 a sec receive ne cost over constant; the inflati administr patronage remember auction g, artists, bu Deficit dodges th



1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

MRS THATCHER'S NEW WORLD

The prime minister's performance in Aspen yesterday was strongly billed in advance as a "great speech", setting out Britain's claim to moral supremacy as the grandmother of democracies. Mrs Thatcher delivered herself of much generality about the rule of law, the need for a European magna carta of human rights and for caution towards the Soviet Union, albeit as "not an enemy but as a country groping its way towards freedom". To none of these worthy thoughts could any sensible person take exception.

Mrs Thatcher came into her own when she turned to the topic that has long been her favourite — world, including European, free trade. This time the language was carefully not that of the Bruges speech — of a Brussels clique of monopolists eager to impose their will on the free parliaments of Europe. But the sentiments were no different, though their direction was new and urgent.

What is the point, asked Mrs Thatcher, of welcoming the freedoms, the democratic institutions, of Eastern Europe's new states only to tell them that they must stay second-class citizens in the European club or submit themselves to a novel set of supranational bureaucracies. Indeed, she suggested that the response to the challenge of these European states might set a standard for the attitude of the rich nations to poorer neighbours the world over. She rightly feared a world in which three wealthy protectionist regions barricaded themselves against the outside world: Western Europe within its monetary union, the Americas, north and south, and the Pacific rim.

Recent experience with Gatt has shown how easy it would be for perfectly democratic states to decide that protectionism is the line of least resistance, especially when parliamentary majorities are threatened by small interest groups. "That is why we should all need to make concessions," Mrs Thatcher said, "particularly on agriculture where we are far from perfect."

A West that cannot even find a way to buy primary farm produce from the poorer countries is unlikely to find a way of buying

manufactured goods from, for instance, the struggling economies of Eastern Europe. The sting in this is inevitably directed at the European Community. One of Mrs Thatcher's three hypothetical blocs, a Western Europe based on monetary union, would clearly be incapable of admitting Eastern Europe, with its development needs, its low-cost production, its nationalism, its democratic immaturity and diversity. Eastern Europe is Mrs Thatcher's Trojan horse. Wheeled into the cosy corridors of Brussels, it will disgorge a thousand threats to the oligopolies of the EC.

The message here is that European political integration as at present proposed is a threat to the world economic order. Despite Mrs Thatcher's praise for the EC single market in 1992, this is an internal market mechanism, not an external one. To Mrs Thatcher, the European community is a force not against but for protectionism. And nothing will be proof of this pudding quite as much as the EC's reaction to applications from the East. "We can't say in one breath that they are part of Europe and in the next that our European Community club is so exclusive that we won't admit them."

This is a genuinely fresh insight into the world order. In place of the old imperialism, which acted as benign (or malign) policemen of the ills of the world, stands the new law and order of the market. The demise of communism offers this order a wholly new scope. In Africa and Asia as well as in Europe and America. The enemy is the growth of powerful economic blocs, each resisting trade with each other and with the poorer regions of the world. The mechanism for imposing this order is the laborious trade "round" of Gatt and of bilateral negotiations between the powerful states. Hence the proposal that the Soviet Union be asked to join the G-7 series of economic summits.

This order accepts nationalism as a legitimate expression of individual sentiment. It opposes supranationalism because it is a threat not just to that expression, but also to the free flow of prosperity, and thus of peace, round the globe. This is Mrs Thatcher at her best. She deserves to be widely heard.

TUC TIME FOR ACTION

When is the Trades Union Congress going to do something about the National Union of Mineworkers? With each passing week, further glimpses emerge of the extraordinary financial arrangements organised by Arthur Scargill on behalf of the NUM at the time of the 1984 national strike. The latest is the insistence by the Libyan president, Colonel Gaddafi, that he authorised the payment of Libyan money to the NUM. Mr Scargill denied it emphatically at the time to the TUC general secretary, Norman Willis, and emphatically yesterday in the face of chapter and verse from *The Sunday Times*, describing the claim that the NUM had cashed a Libyan cheque as "absolute nonsense". The question is simple: who is talking nonsense, Mr Scargill or Colonel Gaddafi?

Mr Willis, who has already demanded an explanation of the union's Libyan connection, is now in a position to press the matter to a conclusion. He should do so. If the Lightman report and the growing dossier of revelations in the press are not sufficient for TUC action, Mr Willis has only to set up a TUC enquiry of his own to retrace the key steps of other investigations. Presumably Colonel Gaddafi will tell representatives of the TUC what he was prepared to tell a reporter from a national newspaper, and even show them his cheque stubs.

The suggestion that Libyan money was paid to the NUM raises two questions: did Mr Scargill lie to Mr Willis, and if so what happened to the money? The second may in the end prove unanswerable. The enquiry by Gavin Lightman QC failed to trace it but the whole purpose of the NUM's financial arrangements at that time was to defeat the sequestrators by handling money in an untraceable way, passing it, so to speak, round the books rather than through them.

The first issue — whether Mr Scargill lied to

Mr Willis in 1984 — raises a challenge to the internal integrity of the trade union movement, and this is Mr Willis's business. Not long after the shooting of a London woman police officer by a gunman hidden in the Libyan embassy, emissaries of the NUM were seen in Libya. According to the Lightman report, the NUM admitted only that they were seeking political support for the miners' industrial action, including the withholding of oil supplies for Britain. Mr Willis was well aware, given the infamy with which Gaddafi's name was then rightly regarded in Britain, that the whole trade union movement would be brought into disrepute if a major British union was seen to be accepting money from him. So he formally asked for, and was given, a categorical assurance from Mr Scargill that this was not the case.

The truth of that denial must concern Mr Willis now. At this distance of time it hardly matters whether a modest sum passed from Libyan sources to the NUM or not, particularly as the NUM has always admitted it wanted Libyan political support. But a general secretary of the TUC is entitled to the truth when he asks a direct question of the president of a member union. Leaving Mr Scargill's personal morality aside, the whole basis of the TUC is that trust must exist between its members, and a minimum degree of truth telling observed.

The issue of the Libyan money gives the TUC a legitimate right to intervene in what would otherwise be the internal affair — or agony — of an autonomous member union. What would suit the trade union movement in this case would also suit the public interest, namely that Mr Scargill's extraordinary career as the leader of the miners' union should reach a graceless end. Mr Willis has the chance to move it towards that desirable conclusion and he should take it.

MUSIC BEFORE MONEY

Opera companies, if they are any good, can bring their patrons colossal prestige. François Mitterrand has never made a secret of his ambition to make the Opéra Bastille, the so-called "people's opera", a monument to the socialist ideals which his long presidency has otherwise done little to perpetuate. Hence he will not be disturbed by reports that his new opera house is expected to overshoot by £31 million last year's already princely subsidy from the French taxpayer of £46.3 million. He will simply pay.

The Bastille will defend itself with the argument that, with 1,100 out of 2,700 seats a night available at less than £20 each, French opera-lovers can afford, now and then, to see the fruits of Mitterrand's generosity on their behalf. British opera administrators will point out that, while Covent Garden gives around 450 performances a year (compared to 150 at the Bastille even when fully operational) and seats at the English National Opera are cheaper than the Bastille, their public subsidies are inferior to those of their continental rivals.

The grand operatic pandemics in Britain, some of whom are already budgeting for big deficits, may be encouraged by this display of Gallic improvidence to disdain what in any other field would be considered generous: the £30 a seat which Covent Garden will still receive next season, when its best seats are to cost over £100 each. The public is subjected to constant special pleading, intended to justify the inflationary expectations aroused among administrators all over Europe and America by patronage on this scale. But the public should remember that the chief benefit of this operatic auction goes not to great art, or even great artists, but to the unions and their members.

Deficit-financing by opera houses neatly dodges the aesthetic issue which led royal and

aristocratic patrons to make this uniquely expensive art-form possible. When Ludwig II almost bankrupted his Bavarian kingdom to allow Wagner to perform his work as the composer thought fit, the king did so in the belief that to help the noblest genius of his day was a privilege. Unless official patronage is informed by a desire to promote a particular kind of music, it is apt to be more slavishly devoted to fashion than the music-loving public already is.

Here Glyndebourne occupies a place comparable to Bayreuth in the nation's musical life. If the present controversy over the staging of Mozart operas, which is reported to have caused Sir Peter Hall's departure, has any wider significance, it is that the more independent of the state an operatic venture can make itself, the more likely it is to worry primarily about music, not money. If the budget has been laid down, not by the customer, but by a quango, there is infinite scope for argument about its size and adequacy. Jeremy Isaacs should therefore quibble less over the arbitrary level of Covent Garden's subsidy and free himself from the union agreements with his staff that contribute so heavily to his deficit.

Artistic subsidies are relics of absolute monarchy. They are none the less valid for all that, but their size tends to be a function of institutional structure rather than quality. Objections have been raised to the quality of some productions at the Royal Opera House — as they have been at more highly subsidised houses in Europe, including Paris. Mediocrity in the arts is rarely the result of penury. Quality is rarely the result of extravagance. The millions now being squandered at the Bastille will not lead to better opera, merely a political glow round those who dole out the money.

State of the law in assault cases

From Professor J. C. Smith, QC, FBA

Sir, In *R v Parmenter* (*The Times* Law Report, July 30) on the nature of intent necessary to establish an offence of assault occasioning grievous bodily harm, the Court of Appeal expresses its understandable dismay at the "impenetrable" state of the law of assault 129 years after the enactment of the Offences against the Person Act 1861 — "as unworkable in practice as it was objectionable in theory." It is indeed disgraceful.

Even if the House of Lords should succeed in making sense of it — and experience induces pessimism — we will be left with an Act written in archaic language, incomprehensible to anyone but a lawyer with expertise in the criminal law. It is by no means only the law of assault which is in this state. The same is true of much of our substantive criminal law.

Yet the remedy is to hand. The Law Commission's draft Criminal Code for England and Wales which was laid before Parliament in April, 1989, would bring to the law that principle and consistency, the lack of which the Court of Appeal deplores, and would restate the criminal law in clear, modern language.

Surely a start should be made on the enactment of the Criminal Code without further delay — and the chapter on Offences against the Person (with the relevant general principles) would be a very good place to begin.

Yours faithfully,
J. C. SMITH,
445 Derby Road,
Nottingham.

Women boxers

From Miss Susan Atkins

Sir, I should like to take an opportunity to counter-punch Bernard Levin and his article on women's boxing (July 23).

First, I am surprised that anyone, even Mr Levin, would have the arrogance to simply dismiss three decades of heavyweight champions; including the likes of Ezzard Charles, Floyd Patterson, Muhammad Ali, Larry Holmes et al. as champions you would not "allow to walk your dog".

Surely Mr Levin has been a journalist for long enough now to realise that sometimes journalists get things wrong. For instance, when I told Glenys Roberts, of *The Sunday Telegraph*, that you have to be hard to cope with the amount of training necessary, she decided I'd said I was hard, she misinterpreted me. Also, when I told her the lady at the gym accepted me as a fellow boxer and athlete in training, she reported I consider myself to be "one of the lads". The word arrangement completely changes the sentiments, I think you'll agree.

It was obvious that Mr Levin hadn't even thoroughly read the *Telegraph* article, otherwise he would have referred to me as Miss Atkins, — as my single status requires, and not the rather derogatory "Ms".

Lastly, Mr Levin says that he certainly didn't know there were any female boxers. Well if he'd been an avid reader of *The Sunday Times* he would have been enlightened on this fact some eight years ago. At the start of my boxing career I published an article about me, on August 1, 1982.

I would suggest to Mr Levin that in future, if he is intending to write about something on which he knows nothing, a little time and research would help his cause.

Yours sincerely,
SUE ATKINS
(British Women's Lightweight Champion),
50 Riverside Drive,
Mitcham, Surrey.

China policy

From Mrs Xandra Hardie

Sir, If, as Douglas Hurd says ("Why silence will not help Hong Kong", August 3), there are quiet, pleased voices in Hong Kong approving our policy towards the Chinese, might we know them? It is hard to believe in something neither seen nor heard.

Yours etc.,
XANDRA HARDIE,
9 Elsworth Terrace, NW3,
August 3.

Economic cycle

From Mr Nicholas Pellett

Sir, We will shortly be reaching yet another turning point in the position of United Kingdom plc. The exchange rate is being allowed to float up for entry into the ERM (exchange-rate mechanism). Import costs including raw materials will fall, exporters will have to trim their prices to compete in export markets. They could be helped by a reduction in interest rates which is probably inevitable despite the Chancellor's statements to the contrary, 1 per cent by the end of 1990 and 2 per cent through 1991 as so called "headline" inflation reduces. Inevitably, as otherwise domestic producers will be at a considerable disadvantage, and the balance of payments deficit will widen even further.

So everyone will breathe a sigh of relief, interest rates will be nearer their moving average, confidence would gradually return and once all the current rash of bankruptcies are out of the system, banks will start lending again on reasonably competitive terms.

The Stock Exchange might even become a vehicle for capital-raising for small companies (although I have some lingering doubts here). Some of us thought,

Reasons for unrest in Liverpool

From Mr Keva Coombes

Sir, The problems of Liverpool Council (leading article, July 27) hugely exaggerated though they have been, are not caused by a fixed hold of the Labour Party, which is of much less duration than in, say, Norwich and Sheffield. They are caused by a unique combination of extraordinarily conservative public-sector trade unions, council structures and management, the disappearance of a locally-controlled private sector, and the very long tradition of rigid factions in the Labour Party.

By supporting one faction against another the national party is obviously seen to assert its authority, but of itself that does little to get to the roots of the city's difficulties. That requires public resources aimed at benefiting the private sector, especially the construction industry; methods of increasing real choice in Liverpool, such as the chance of home-ownership for those with poor employment history or prospects; and more easily enforceable standards of service in the public sector.

Clearly that will have to wait for a Labour Government, but as even then Liverpool will not be treated as a special case, some self-help and support for those moving away from the over-dependence on the council as the provider of services is the best short-term hope.

Certainly dishonest coalitions of councilors from the bishops would be counter-productive since all they do is to perpetuate an image of an ungovernable city with the begging bowl at its side, an image which is very damaging and unfair.

More attention, both on the positive qualities of Liverpool and Merseyside and on the best of the council's achievements, such as its funding of improvement grants and house-building, could bring increased private-sector investment and skills. Without them Liverpool's role as a whipping boy for national politicians looks set to continue and Liverpool's regeneration proposals appear gloomy indeed.

Yours,
KEVA COOMBES (Leader,
Liverpool City Council, 1987-90),
11 Wellington Road,
Oxted, Birkhead, Merseyside,
July 27.

From Councillor L. Mahmood and others

Sir, Your editorial refers to the suspended Liverpool councilors as "turbulent gadflies". You also quote Neil Kinnock's description of us as "people who constantly flout their responsibilities". We are neither, simply people democratically selected by the Labour Party and then democratically voted into office, many of us with huge majorities.

We voted in council to oppose poll tax and rent rises in line with our election pledges and the local party manifesto. We have broken the whip on these two issues, while

some right-wing councillors have broken the whip on a number of occasions, and are now chairs of major council committees. Some even refused to vote for a budget.

We, far from flouting our responsibilities, voted for a legal, balanced budget which could also continue to protect jobs and services and freeze rents. It is not the vote against a rent rise which has brought the threat of the district auditor. First, every council is being squeezed by the Tory Government and poll tax. But also, failure by Harry Rimmer's leadership to implement the budget he supported until seven weeks ago.

For the group leadership to be so busy witch-hunting with Labour's NEC while trying to place the burden of the Tories on the backs of ordinary people is indeed playing politics with people's lives.

Yours etc.,
L. E. MAHMOOD,
TONY JENNINGS,
G. KNIBB,
c/o Room 42, Municipal Buildings,
Dale Street,
Liverpool, Merseyside,
July 30.

From the Editor of *Militant*

Sir, Your readers must have been surprised to read (report, July 26) that Neil Kinnock's action of suspending 29 Liverpool Labour councilors was taken "to prevent a Militant revival on Merseyside". Your report was correct to say that the scenes outside Labour's London headquarters were reminiscent of 1985, except that then only three councilors, Tony Mulhearn, Felicity Dowling and Derek Hutton, were expelled.

If Neil Kinnock had, as you report, "talked many times this year with ordinary people in Liverpool" he would know that the rents are a very emotive issue. Is he unaware that the election manifesto — successfully put to the electorate only 12 weeks ago — promised there would be no rent rise? Is Labour to renege on its promise?

Militant has gone from strength to strength in Merseyside, not because of some conspiracy of a few individuals but because we are in a conspiracy with the "ordinary" people for ordinary people: you cannot expel ideas, the true source of *Militant*'s support.

Your leading article concluded that the autocratic, undemocratic methods of Labour's national executive, where parties and individuals are suspended and expelled without a hearing, is a powerful antidote to *Militant* poison. *Militant* supporters have always supported extending democracy, but it is Labour's NEC which imposes candidates and suspends party members who seek to manifest commitments, with venomous effect.

Yours etc.,
PETER TAAPPE, Editor,
Militant,
3/13 Hepscott Road, E9,
July 27.

Defence cuts

From Mr M. C. Tucker

Sir, Your leader ("A battle shirked", July 26) was, I suspect, unfair to Mr King. Judging by his earlier comments, he was very reluctant to carry out a defence review at this stage, and the government was presumably forced into it by pressure from those who wanted to see an instant "peace dividend".

Having just moved from the simple (not to say simplistic) certainties of the cold war era into the uncertainties of a rapidly-changing world, we need to re-adjust our perspectives.

The realities that have to be taken into account for the future are, first, that standing armies are now the "norm"; second, that large armies equipped with sophisticated weapons systems have long ceased to be confined to the West and the USSR; third, and topically, that economic strength does not protect you against military might; indeed, it may attract aggression; fourth, that in an increasingly interdependent world there is no such thing as purely defensive defence (even the Swiss, with their unique geographical and social advantages, would have found it hard to

maintain economic and political self-determination had the Fascists controlled the rest of Europe at the end of the last world war).

Yours faithfully,
M. C. TUCKER,
2 Goodwood Close,
Camberley, Surrey.

From Air Commodore Alastair Mackie

Sir, Defence chiefs are being allowed, as yesterday's leader puts it, to continue with the cold war less 10 per cent. One reason why they got off so lightly must have been their bowing to political expediency by waving through, on its way to the biggest increase in any weapons system since the second world war, the new so-called independent deterrent. The four inviolate Trident submarines will provide a strategic nuclear warhead capacity of 512, which is eight times that of the existing Polaris fleet.

Until, as your leader says, someone asks what forces are really needed to defend Britain, half-hearted annual bargaining in snippets will continue.

Yours faithfully,
A. MACKIE (Vice-Chairman),
Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament,
22-24 Underwood Street, N1,
July 27.

would abate and remain at a lower level as there would not be wage inflation based on rising house prices and interest rates, which would be lower anyway as the balance of money lent would begin to tip towards productive capacity creating real and sustainable wealth.

A knock-on effect would include greater mobility of labour and more money being available to fund pensions, as the trading down on retirement became less significant. In the past many home owners have indeed seen their home as a retirement fund.

It may take longer this time for the "recovery" in house prices to take place but as for most people there is no viable alternative, the cycle will inevitably repeat itself to a greater or lesser degree. Memories are short in this market where there is so much vested interest at stake.

The time to introduce the basis of such a policy would be now before the cycle can repeat itself again.

Yours sincerely,
NICHOLAS PELLETT,
Crouch Green,
Codicote,
Hertfordshire,
August 1.

Practicalities of population curb

From Dr L. H. Palmer

Sir, Professor Hills (July 30) believes that it would not be a denial of liberty, or of any religious principle, to insist that children be desired before they are conceived. This makes assumptions from very recent Western experience; it is not particularly relevant to the areas of high population growth.

Among peasant populations in poor countries fathers do indeed desire as many sons as possible, for several entirely legitimate social reasons. Professor Hills's quick scientific fix of a contraceptive is unlikely to meet with acceptance by either the people or their governments, of whatever hue.

It is also as well to remember, when considering the neo-Malthusianism of Professor Hills and those of like mind, that the world population has increased considerably since the original Malthus, and many live better than ever before.

Yours faithfully,
LESLIE PALMER,
Hazelton,
9 St Catherine's Close,
Bath, Avon,
July 31.

From Mr T. P. Hill

Sir, Few people who are not influenced by strong religious beliefs now doubt the need for us to limit our numbers. Even if the predictions of environmental disaster do not materialise, the quality of life for each individual will be improved the more room he or she has on this already crowded planet.

Individuals must take responsibility for the environment in their own bedrooms. The greatest contribution anyone can make to the environment is to have as few children as their emotional and religious needs will allow.

Yours faithfully,
T. P. HILL,
62 Silverlands Road,
Lymington, Kent,
July 30.

From Miss Catherine Donner

Sir, Graham Hills wishes to add a "harmless chemical additive" to the food chain to render couples infertile. Involuntary medication of any sort is highly controversial, as the widespread objections to the addition of fluoride to the water supply demonstrated. The idea of carrying out mass sterilisation campaigns through involuntary medication is not only grotesque and totalitarian but quite impractical.

Yours faithfully,
CATHERINE DONNER,
15 Chiddington Street,
Fulham, SW6,
July 31.

Academic hurdle

From Mr Sean Hall

Sir, I find it rather disturbing that while there seem to be government plans to devise two-year undergraduate degree courses to increase the throughput of students, the number of graduates able to take up postgraduate places in this country is still fairly low.

The British Academy has told me that more than 2,500 candidates applied to it for postgraduate funding this year but only some 800 or so awards have been made. This means that those students in the arts who have been offered a place to do postgraduate work but who are without a grant will have to let their place go.

The irony of this state of affairs is that one can secure a place at (say) both Oxford and Cambridge, as I have done, yet be deprived of the means with which to go. Postgraduates such as myself have the worst of all possible worlds as regards funding, for we cannot even take up loans to fund our places.

Yours sincerely,
SEAN HALL,
33 Cradley Road,
New Eltham, SE9.

Aluminium hazards

From Mrs K. Parfitt

Sir, Dr Thomas Stuttford (Medical Briefing, July 26) cited the 27th edition of *Martindale* as lacking information on the toxicity of aluminium. Had he consulted the current 29th edition, published in January, 1989, he would have found reference to the toxicity of aluminium, and to the problem of its presence in the water supply.

Much has been published on the hazards of aluminium. We have supplied selected references in the new edition.

Yours faithfully,
KATHLEEN PARFITT
(Deputy Editor),
Martindale: The Extra Pharmacopoeia,
Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain,
1 Lambeth High Street, SE1
July 27.

Moving experience

From Mrs Susan Tozer

Sir, I was interested to read that there has been "a shortage of platforms" at Waterloo (Diary, August 2).

Recently, whilst on a train standing outside St Pancras station, we were informed by the guard that the delay was caused by "waiting for a platform to arrive". Coming from Waterloo, possibly?

Yours faithfully,
SUSAN TOZER,
The Old House,
Church Street,
Wilbarston, Leicestershire,
August 2.

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — (071) 782 5046.



COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

AUGUST 4: The Princess Royal, President, Federation Equestre Internationale, left Heathrow Airport, London, this afternoon for Sweden where Her Royal Highness will attend the closing stages of the World Equestrian Games in Stockholm.

Mrs Timothy Holderness-Roddam was in attendance.

AUGUST 5: The Princess Royal arrived at Southampton Airport this afternoon from Sweden.

Mrs Timothy Holderness-Roddam was in attendance.

CLARENCE HOUSE

AUGUST 4: Today is the Anniversary of the Birthday of Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother.

AUGUST 5: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother this afternoon visited the Exhibition "90 Memorable Years" at the Guildhall, Windsor.

Dame Frances Campbell-Preston and Sir Martin Gilliat were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE

AUGUST 5: The Prince of Wales visited The Prince of Wales Summer School in Civil Architecture at the beginning of the course, at Magdalen College, Oxford.

Mr Peter Westmacott was in attendance.

Birthdays today

The Countess of Althorpe, 81; Mr Chris Bonington, mountaineer, 56; Mr Richard Buckle, exhibition designer, 74; Mr Michael Deeley, film producer, 58; Colonel Ellis Evans, former Lord Lieutenant of Clwyd, 80; Mr John Evans, chief constable, Devon and Cornwall, 47; Mr Frank Finlay, actor, 64; Mr Marshall Sir Geoffrey Fox, 67; Dame Monica Golding, former Colonel Commandant, QARANC, 88; Mr Howard Hodgkin, painter, 58; Sir Freddie Laker, creator, Skytrain Air Passenger Service, 68; Mr James Lees-Milne, architectural historian, 82; Sir Donald MacCallum, former honorary president, Ferrari Defence Systems and Ferrari Industrial Electronics, 68; Air Vice-Marshal T.C. Macdonald, 81; Mr Dom Mintoff, former Prime Minister of Malta, 74; Mr Robert Mitchell, actor, 73; Lord Swaythling, chairman, Rothmans International, 62; Mr David O'Brien, racehorse trainer, 34; Sir Duncan Oppenheim, former president, British-American Tobacco Company, 86; Judge Valerie Pearson, 64; Mr John Reid, jockey, 35; Mr W.E. Tucker, orthopaedic surgeon, 87; the Marquess of Tweeddale, 43; Miss Barbara Windsor, actress, 53.

Latest wills

Latest estates include (net, before tax paid):

Mr Ralph Harrington of Selly Park, Birmingham, £390,166.

Mr Philip Brook of Netherthorpe, Huddersfield, West Yorkshire, £562,118.

Mrs Maureen George Campbell, of Maidenhead, Berkshire, £437,454.

Mrs Violet Cox, of Bowdon, Greater Manchester, £365,491.

Judge retires

Judge Counsell has retired from the bench of the South Eastern Circuit. He was appointed a circuit judge in 1973.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr W. Bennett and Miss J.C. Simmonds

The engagement is announced between Warren, eldest son of Mr and Mrs B. Bennett, and Jane Catherine, eldest daughter of Mr D. Simmonds, and Mrs C. Lechner.

Mr T.J. Cousins and Miss C.E. Bruce

The engagement is announced between Tim, only son of Mr and Mrs Basil Cousins, of Chesham, Surrey, and Elaine, only daughter of Mr and Mrs J.R. Bruce, of Raynes Park, London, SW20.

Mr E.G. Gibson and Miss Z.C. Smiley

The engagement is announced between Rupert, son of Mr J.D. Forbes, and Mr D.G.J. Gibson, of Oakham, Rutland, and Zoe, daughter of Mr and Mrs A.K. Smiley, of Bramfield, Suffolk.

Marriages

Lord Bruce and Miss A.L. Mowbray

The marriage took place in Alaska, on Sunday, July 29, between Lord Bruce and Miss Amanda Mowbray.

Mr St. Julien and Miss J.R. Norton

The marriage took place on Saturday in Norwich Cathedral of Mr Simon Pullen, elder son of Mr and Mrs T.J. Pullen, of Swindon, Wiltshire, to Miss Joanna Norton, eldest daughter of the Bishop of Norwich and Mrs G.R. Drake.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her brother, Mr Andrew Norton, was attended by Catherine and Sarah Courtauld, Camilla Stage, Elizabeth Frih, Oliver Duxbury, James D'Avila, Miss Katherine Mackay and Miss Susan Bagley. Mr Ashley Pullen was best man.

A reception was held at Bishop's House, Norwich, and the honeymoon will be spent in the West Indies.

Nature notes

BIRDS are gathering in flocks again on the salt-marshes and estuaries. Oystercatchers probe with their long red beaks along the shingle, scampering from one likely feeding place to another. When a 100 or 200 of them all fly up together, their pipings reach a crescendo, and the air is filled with the black and white zig-zag markings of their wings.

Curlews stride in a more dignified way along the water's edge, and give a languid call as they fly away. Golden plovers stay a little further inland, among the grassy tussocks on the marsh. They feed in loose flocks of 60 or 70 birds, and at the moment are still in their striking summer plumage, with yellow-golden backs, bold black chests, and a

creamy line between them that curls around the top of the head to form an eyebrow. Along the sea-wall there are tufts of golden samphire, a rusty yellow flower with thick green foliage. The purple sea lavender makes the salt marsh look like a heather covered moor.

In many lanes the commonest flower now is bristly ox-tongue, a prickly lemon-coloured dandelion.

DJM

OBITUARIES

BERNARD FALK

Bernard Falk, broadcaster, died, apparently of a heart attack, while on his speedboat on the Thames at Bray, Berkshire, on August 4 aged 47. He was born on February 16, 1943.

BERNARD Falk had been many times, newspaperman, television reporter and presenter, in a journalistic career which was cut short by his premature death while boating on the Thames, near Monkey Island. But he will, perhaps, be best remembered for his 10-year stint as host of BBC Radio 4's travel programme, *Breakaway*. With its informal, yet imaginative, approach to holidays, ranging from bucket and spade at the seaside to rounding up dogs with seasoned cowhands on the high plains of Montana, *Breakaway* soon became a popular Saturday morning radio event.

Falk was born in Southport and after serving his journalistic apprenticeship on Fleet Street he went into television with Scottish TV. He then moved to the BBC as a reporter and in 1971 hit the headlines in a controversial manner when he was jailed for four days for contempt of court by Belfast magistrates for refusing to name an IRA man he had interviewed on the programme *24 Hours*. However the courts might view his behaviour, this was a stand which greatly enhanced his reputation among colleagues and newspaper editors



and publishers, the more so as no great question of public interest was involved in the case, and Falk had made it clear that he had no sympathy for the IRA, but had acted as he did out of principle. Initially Falk lodged an appeal against the sentence of the

Midweek, Tonight, and Newsnight. He also presented many documentaries, among them *The Silicon Factor*, *Under the Skin* and *The Four Seasons*. However, he was less successful when it came to hosting the television chat show, *Sin on Saturday* on BBC1. The programme which aimed to deal with the Seven Deadly Sins at the rate of one a week, through a live studio discussion between guests, was withdrawn after only three weeks following scathing notices from critics and generally poor viewing figures. As a host, travel became Falk's métier and radio his medium. Though even here he could be controversial, as when, in a travel broadcast about the Americans as tourists, he caused British holiday salesmen in the United States any amount of problems when he described Americans as being "like a rather bad Bulgarian wine. They don't travel well."

Bernard Falk had also been a partner in a television production company, Falkman Productions, and a company which offered training to politicians aimed at preparing them for handling themselves on radio and television. At the time of his death he had just moved to a new job, presenting BBC Radio 4's *Going Places*.

Falk was twice married, and had two sons and a daughter from his first marriage, and two daughters from his second.

ETTORE MASERATI

Ettore Maserati, the last survivor of seven brothers, whose family links with motor racing began in the early days of the century and whose name was carried by some of the world's most famous sports and racing cars, has died in his native Bologna at the age of 96.

TOGETHER with four of his brothers, Carlo, Bindo, Alfieri and Ernesto, Ettore Maserati helped to make his family name one of the most highly respected in the world of high performance motor racing and motor sport. Carlo, the eldest, was the first to achieve recognition, through his motorcycle and car racing exploits prior to his death in 1910. Alfieri followed the seeds of the brothers' motor activities when he opened a small garage in Bologna four years later.

During the first world war they manufactured Maserati sparking plugs, and in 1925 they handled the production of the racing car they had designed for the Diatto car company. The following year, when Diatto withdrew from motor sport, the brothers took over the cars and founded the Officine Alfieri Maserati, adopting Bologna's famous Neptune's trident symbol as their trademark.

Their first sports car achieved instant success when it won its class on its debut in the 1926 Targa Florio with Alfieri Maserati at the wheel. By the early 1930s



single-seater Maseratis had become prolific winners of grand prix races, Ernesto assuming overall control of the family firm following Alfieri's death in 1932. In the face of German domination the three surviving brothers then switched their attention to the smaller voiturette racing class.

In 1938 their company was bought by the Orsi industrial combine and they moved to Modena where they remained until 1947. Then, having built their last Maserati sports car, the A6G, they left Orsi, returned to Bologna and formed Officina Specializzata Costruzione Automobili for the manufacture of mainly small engine sports cars under the OSCA name. Although Maserati cars continue to be manufactured today, for the past 43 years there has been no family involvement in the company they formed.

Of the brothers' many racing successes with their OSCA cars, the most noteworthy was Stirling Moss's victory in the 1954 Sebring 12-hour race in Florida. They also ventured into the manufacture of small single-seater racing cars and a series of Grand Touring cars with attractive bodywork by specialist Italian coachbuilders.

But the days of the small family-owned car manufacturer were drawing to a close and in 1963 they sold out to the MV motorcycle manufacturer, the last OSCA car being built three years later. With his brothers Ernesto and Bindo, both of whom he was to survive, Ettore Maserati went into retirement in 1966, and with his death the last link with a famous contribution to motor industry and sport is broken.

WALTER SHEWRING

Walter Hayward Shewring, classics teacher and author, died on August 2 at the age of 83. He was born on January 1, 1907.

WALTER Shewring is best known for his translation of the *Odyssey* for the Oxford University Press, which has sold more than 50,000 copies in paperback and hardback since it was first published in September 1980. Shewring chose to go for something more literary than the — also best-selling — translation of E. V. Rieu, which had appeared more than 30 years before in Penguin.

The result is something more measured though still accessible. Shewring had been aged on to the task by Eric Gill, to whose circle he was something of a literary godfather. Invited to illustrate an episode from the *Odyssey*, Gill looked at the stately Butcher and Lang, and the highly colloquial T. E. Lawrence versions and asked: "Can't they manage something better than that?" Shewring's translation was an answer.

Shewring went to Bristol Grammar School, and Corpus Christi College, Oxford, where he won the Chancellor's prize for Latin prose. Although a son of the Manse, he became a Roman Catholic and went to Ampleforth in 1928 to teach classics. He was still teaching there 60 years later, when he was 81. Shewring was part of a great tradition of classics

teaching in the public schools. He placed due weight on grammar and composition and was a distinguished composer in Latin and Greek prose, publishing a volume of his own work, entitled *Versions* (OUP).

His dry outward manner concealed kindness and tolerance. He was not very interested in money and gave much to charity. He never learned to drive a car and preferred a dip pen to any other writing instrument.

He was one of the editors of the Cambridge University Press Italian dictionary, for which the Italian state honoured him by making him Cavaliere dell'Ordine al Merito. In addition he was very knowledgeable about the organ, and was on one occasion consulted about the specification of the Festival Hall organ.

At 73, a "retired and unassuming scholar" in Dr Johnson's phrase, by the time his *Odyssey* appeared, he was thoroughly bemused by the well nigh sensational reception it was accorded in the world of classical scholarship. But the fact remains that it has served Homer well, and in its successful negotiation of the difficult course between the over-colloquial and the ponderously majestic, provides one of the best entries to the *Odyssey* for the increasing band of that epic's admirers who have no Greek.

HIS HON WILLIAM WINGATE

His Honour William Granville Wingate, QC, formerly County Court and Circuit judge, died on July 26, aged 79. He was born on May 28, 1911.

WILLIAM Wingate was the seventh child of Colonel George Wingate and younger brother of Major-General Orde Wingate of Chindits fame. Educated at Brighton College and Lincoln College, Oxford, he was called to the Bar in 1933. During the war he served in the Royal Artillery. He was a lieutenant-colonel in the allied military government in post-war Germany and attended the Nuremberg trials. He returned to practice at 2, Garden Court, Temple, in 1946 and became head of chambers in 1949. All members of his chambers profited greatly from his advice and support.

In 1963 he took silk, and soon made his mark in difficult cases, being instructed in the Sea Gem inquiry into one of the first oil rig disasters, and in *Home Office v Dyer Yacht Company*, a milestone case in which the Home Office was found liable for damage caused by prisoners escaping from custody. He was a deputy chairman of Quarter Sessions at Chelmsford from 1965 to 1971.

In 1967 he was appointed a County Court judge and was assigned to sit in Sussex. In 1970 he was invited, but declined, to become a High Court judge. He had married at 49 and with twin children, then aged eight the prospect of being sent to hear cases on circuit did not appeal. Further, he enjoyed the work of the County Court and was concerned that as a local court it should be just and efficiently run. He never regretted his decision and the people of Sussex benefited from it. As a judge, he had a quiet authority, and was considerate and patient to lawyers, litigants and his court staff. He retired in 1986.

Wingate was a member of the Bar Council 1961-1967. He served on the County Court Rule Committee 1971-1980, the Lord Chancellor's Legal Aid Advisory Committee 1971-1977 and the Lord Chancellor's Law Reform Committee 1974-1987. He is survived by his wife, Judith, and their twin children. She shared his love of sailing, growing for him in his many successes in the international Dragon yacht. Vana, he was Commodore of the Royal Corinthian Yacht Club from 1965 to 1968 and of the Bar Yacht Club, from 1972 to 1976.

Archaeology

Decision time for the Aboriginal Dreamtime

By NORMAN HAMMOND, ARCHAEOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

AUSTRALIAN archaeologists and Aboriginal activists are in conflict over a proposal to bury some of the earliest human remains known from the continent. A decision is expected this week on whether a number of skeletons dating back to the Ice Age should be taken from the Museum of Victoria in Melbourne and handed over, even though they have not yet been fully studied.

If the Government of Victoria accedes to Aboriginal demands, it will be the first time that any country has surrendered such important evidence for the development and dispersal of our ancestors, and a scientific disaster of major proportions, the archaeologists say.

The bones, dating back some 10,000-15,000 years, were excavated between 1969 and 1972 by Dr Alan Thorne, of the Australian National University, at Kow Swamp on the Murray River, near the town of Echuca. The site had been noted in the 1920s when an irrigation scheme had cut through it.

"The work was a rescue, and from it we obtained the best single record of the physical and cultural aspects of man in the Australian Pleistocene," Dr Thorne said last week.

The Kow Swamp remains are notable for the extreme ruggedness and thickness of some of the skull bones, suggesting a closer relationship to the earlier human species known as *Homo erectus* than any other people who lived this late in time. *Homo erectus* is not known in Australia, but has been found in Java, to the northwest on one of the likely routes of human migration into Australia.

The ruggedness is in dramatic contrast to the earliest skeletons from the area, found at Lake Mungo in New South Wales and dated to more than 30,000 years ago. These are on the whole gracile, and suggest an ancestry distinct from the Kow Swamp people.

The Kow Swamp remains are themselves outside the range of modern Aboriginal skeletal measurements. "They display anatomical features not present in living people generally or Aboriginal people in particular," Dr Thorne said.

Both he and Professor John Mulvaney, the man who established that Australia had been occupied in the Ice Age, reject claims that the present Echuca Aboriginal Community are direct descendants of the Kow Swamp people, and thus could have a legitimate say in the disposal of the remains. Aborigines, on the other hand, argue that all remains from their common past in the Dreamtime are the proper concern and property of all living Aboriginal communities.

The main fear of scientists is that if, or more probably when, the Kow Swamp bones are handed over, they will be buried secretly and thus be lost forever.

At least one Aboriginal activist has threatened to do this immediately, should they pass into his control, and the Echuca community has also told the Museum of Victoria, where the remains have been kept since they were excavated, that what it believes to be the remains of its ancestors will be reinterred.

Professor Mulvaney says that the decision to surrender the bones, which all parties seem to expect to come this week, has the potential to cripple Australian archaeology. "If the Kow Swamp remains are destroyed, demands could follow for the few other ancient fossils remains. Australia would then become the only continent to have destroyed its evidence for human origins."

Archaeologists emphasize the distinction between recent remains, often of people who died during colonial times, which were collected as ethnographic specimens by European museums, and fossil material thousands of years old. Ethnographic material can often be linked to living Aboriginal groups, and few scholars oppose return of the remains to their descendants and proper reburial.

As far as fossil remains are concerned, Professor Mulvaney and Dr Thorne suggest that Aboriginal groups should act as custodians of a ritually sanctioned keeping place. If necessary, white scientists could be denied access; Professor Mulvaney makes the point that a generation of Aboriginal archaeologists and anthropologists is emerging who will want to carry out research on their peoples' distant ancestors, and who will not appreciate the present destruction of that evidence in pursuit of political objectives.

Some Aboriginal communities agree with him: members of the Koori Aboriginal Heritage Trust recently declared themselves strongly in favour of preserving such ancient remains for the scientific benefit of humanity in general.

Sites such as Kow Swamp and Lake Mungo are crucial to the greatest riddle in Australia's prehistory: when and how humans migrated out of Africa, across Asia and Indonesia, and into the island continent. The pace of research is rapid: Professor Mulvaney's demonstration of even a late Ice Age prehistory was only 30 years ago, but by this year the human occupation of Australia, and hence the first navigation across open seas, had been pushed back to more than 50,000 years ago (*The Times*, June 11, 1990).

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In the Salon Noir, the artists made preliminary sketches with a charcoal pencil and then applied a layer of paint on top, indicating that the paintings were carefully planned. Deeper in the cave this was not the case, and the

paintings were made without initial sketches. "It might be argued that different recipes could have been used during roughly the same period by people of different status, or at different seasons, or for different ceremonies," M. Clottes and his colleagues say in the *Bulletin de la Société Préhistorique Française*.

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Cave painters who blended their pigments

By OUR ARCHAEOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

STONE Age artists used carefully made pigments for their cave paintings, a group of French scientists has discovered. What had been thought to be simple charcoal sketches were in fact made using powdered colour blended with a mineral extender and held together with a binder.

The discovery results from analysis of microscopic samples taken last year from the cave of Niaux, in the Pyrenees near Tarascon. Niaux is famous for its panels of boldly drawn bison and horses, thought to date to the last phase of the Ice Age 12,000 years ago.

M. Jean Clottes, director of

prehistoric antiquities for the region and author of the Niaux entry in the French Ministry of Culture's recent encyclopaedic survey of painted caves, carried out the research in collaboration with M. Michel Menu and M. Philippe Walter, of the French museums' service laboratories.

Their main conclusion, based on analysis of 59 specimens of red and black paint taken from drawings in all parts of the cave, is that the Niaux artists used a true paint with three constituents. The red colour was provided by the iron oxide haematite,

while black was made from charcoal, or from manganese dioxide.

The extender, which enabled the paint to stick to the wall and prevent it from cracking, was made from four different minerals; one recipe combined potassium feldspar with biotite, a kind of mica. The binder was probably an organic substance.

While different recipes could have been in use at the same time by separate artists, analysis of paint-covered bones from the La Vache site near by shows only one red and one black combination; at the earlier site of Enlène a

different red paint recipe was found.

This suggests that changes in paint composition instead took place over time, and since both red-paint recipes were found in use in the famous Salon Noir (although the later one was predominantly unused), this in turn suggests a long period of activity.

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AUGUST

General Llewellyn, 18th, the New York Times, in both ways bear some resemblance to a scene in the film *Goldfinger* in which the friends who break in to the house.

COLLAPSE

DOVER: The Dover Express today ended 16 hours 44 minutes short of a record of 16 hours 44 minutes set by the Dover Express in 1988.

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EDUCATION

The education secretary has asked for a report on reading standards in primary schools. Is his concern justified? David Tytler reports

Falling between the lines

In the flurry of claim and counter-claim over the reading standards achieved by primary school children, only one thing is certain: nobody really knows what has happened to standards in the past ten years.

National surveys suggest that standards remained fairly static between the early 1950s and 1983, but John MacGregor, the education secretary, has been sufficiently concerned by reports of falling standards since then that he has asked Her Majesty's Inspectorate to take a close look at how reading is taught in primary schools in England and Wales.

The 50 inspectors who will visit 100 schools this autumn will be concerned particularly with the progress of five to seven year-olds, but will also assess the abilities of children at 11, and will set reading in the context of spelling and the spoken word.

The autumn inspection is part of the continuing programme of monitoring the introduction of the national curriculum, but it has had to be rearranged to accommodate Mr MacGregor's request.

Senior inspectors who will be responsible for the final report due at the end of the year say it will pinpoint methods that give children not only the basic skills of literacy, but a lasting interest in reading and a good understanding of the written word.

Whatever else they find, the inspectors will probably say that schools should have a defined programme for the teaching of reading which can be handed on from one teacher to another, but that it should not focus on one system alone, and should include a clear understanding of the sounds of words.

An earlier report from the inspectors describes what they saw as an ideal method of teaching reading used in one school. When children started, much emphasis was placed on pupils hearing and being involved in songs, rhymes and stories. Every child was encouraged to recognise important word sounds.

Reading was seen as a shared activity involving child and adult as partners, and opportunities were created every day for pupils to read, either alone or in groups or with an adult. They were encouraged to use and borrow books as often as possible.

Pupils whose progress was slow were given unobtrusive help, including pre-selected texts and clues to meaning, such as illustrations.

Many parents are worried about the introduction of "real" (unabridged) books in schools and children being allowed immediate access to them without a grounding in the alphabet or the sound of language. Whatever the merit of

the idea, it collapses if a class has several teachers, who cannot hope to follow the progress of individual children or match books to the child's particular needs or interests. It depends, too, on enough money being available to provide a big, comprehensive library.

In addition to "real" books, schools are using three other main teaching methods: phonics (the teaching of sounds); look and say, by which children are asked to recognise complete words without being taught individual sounds; and the apprenticeship system, where they read with an adult.

There seems no question of the inspectors recommending a return to rigid reading schemes. One senior adviser says: "They must be kept interested. When it comes to children being read to, they should be given the real version of the book, not a reach-me-down, or rather thin version that deprives them of the real depth of the book."

The head teacher of a small south London primary school speaks for many when she says: "Many of our children come into the school with no experience of reading or books. There simply aren't any books in their homes." The inspector's view is that teachers must find a way to overcome these problems and encourage parents to help their children to read.

The autumn inspection will take particular note of the length of time teachers spend listening to children reading, and whether they encourage children to progress quickly enough. It is not uncommon for infant teachers to protest that the children could read when they left them, only to fall behind once they moved into the junior school. This is often because they have been allowed to concentrate on one type of book too long, or have insufficient reading time because of the extra demands of the junior school.

The immediate cause for concern came last month, when a group of education psychologists claimed that a survey of 350,000 seven-year-olds showed an average fall of 3.23 per cent in reading standards since 1985. Serious doubts have been expressed about the validity of the claim, but Mr MacGregor decided to take action when he realised how few reliable statistics were available. If there were evidence of decline, he said, steps should be taken to identify the causes and tackle them.

Mr MacGregor has also asked the Schools Examination and Assessment Council (Seac) to review all available evidence, and it will provide an interim report by the end of the year.

Seac is waiting for a report from the National Foundation for



Turning over a new leaf: if children come from homes without books, schools must compensate

Educational Research, which was commissioned by the government to review the standards of reading at 11 and 15 of 10,000 children in each age group in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. It is said to show that there has been no significant change since the last survey in 1983. The foundation is working on two separate surveys of reading standards among six and seven-year-olds.

Surveys in the early Fifties showed there was a significant

improvement in reading standards between 1948 and 1952. Follow-up surveys showed little change to 1983. The final results of the latest three-year survey of 4,000 seven-year-olds will be available next year.

Of equal importance will be a parallel study of 2,000 six-year-olds in 200 schools, which began in April this year. Researchers are trying to raise the funds to enable them to double the sample, but in any event will publish their results

either towards the end of next year or early in 1992.

Teachers will be grateful for clear guidance after a period of confusion in which reading has been hijacked by "evangelists", who try to persuade their sometimes reluctant colleagues to adopt the latest fashion.

As the senior adviser says: "Schools must have a structured approach. Reading needs to be taught consciously, not just left to children to pick up."



As secondary schools become involved in the biggest shake-up of the education system since the war, it seems that the majority are being led by people who are not doing their jobs properly.

According to the annual report of Her Majesty's Inspectorate, the management of schools "leaves much to be desired. In only about a third of those inspected was senior management judged to be particularly effective... effective senior management is characterised by clear objectives; sound planning; effective implementation and review and evaluation. Such management is rare."

In an effort to put things right, this autumn the Secondary Heads Association (SHA) will open the UK's first education assessment centre for head teachers. Based at Oxford Polytechnic, the project is a joint venture between the SHA, the polytechnic and British Telecom, which has agreed to provide £70,000 sponsorship over

Who teaches the heads?

Our secondary head teachers seem ill prepared for the management challenges ahead. A new centre is planning to give them lessons

two years to fund the appointment of the centre's first director, Howard Green.

Mr Green, formerly the head of Henry Box School, at Witney, Oxfordshire, says: "All the evidence about effective schools underlines the fact that high-quality leadership is vital to success. Until now the development and selection of heads has focused on their success as educators rather than their skills as managers. The centre will provide the process to identify key management competencies, assess and develop them."

Assessment is based on a number of key stages. The first

identifies the management competencies required for success as a head and leads the participants into a series of job-related exercises which have been carefully designed to gauge management potential.

In the next stage, trained assessors judge the performance of participants in a written report which provides a detailed profile of the strengths and weaknesses of the candidates. The final stage offers suggestions for further development and links them with a "mentor" who will guide and support them.

The whole assessment takes five days, and each group will operate

with 12 participants and 12 assessors.

While the Oxford centre will focus on the development of head teachers, Mr Green points out that it can be used for selection: "It would be possible to send shortlisted candidates for a headship through assessment a few weeks before the final interview and use the evidence gained as part of the final selection process."

Six local education authorities have made a firm commitment to use the centre. They will pay a joining fee of £500 and then purchase one or more "units" (two participants and one assessor) at £1,140 each. The education and

science department has been asked for £5,000 to fund an independent evaluation of the project and, if it is judged a success, it will be extended on a regional basis from 1992, with up to eight further centres.

The SHA initiative is a commendable attempt to improve head-teacher selection and training, but there is little hope of substantially improving the leadership of schools until the government takes firm action.

Britain is one of the few countries in the industrialised world that does not demand a degree or diploma in school management from its schools' head teachers. Perhaps it is time we did. This will not guarantee quality leadership, but it seems the only way of ensuring that our senior school staff are at least prepared for the job.

TONY MOONEY
The author, writing in a personal capacity, is head of Rishall School, Merton

EDUCATIONAL

POSTS

DEVELOPING A PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN INDUSTRY AND EDUCATION

The North West London Partnership Ltd has been established to promote partnership between industry and education. Its aim - like that of other partnerships throughout the country - is to improve the education and employment prospects of local young people and the prosperity of local businesses.

We now need two key professionals to develop the partnership. Also requiring developing is the BRENT COMPACT, an agreement between employers and schools whereby in return for meeting mutually agreed targets, pupils are offered either jobs with training or training leading to a job when they leave full-time education.

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During the first 6 months you will establish the COMPACT between local employers and three local schools. Then, if continued Training Agency and local funding is secured, the COMPACT will be extended to all Brent secondary schools and colleges by 1993. This involves encouraging employers to support the COMPACT's goals; supporting the activities of selected schools and preparing and controlling financial budgets.

Possibly from a teaching or personnel/career development background, you will need to understand the operation of schools and colleges and be familiar with the current needs of employers. Good communication skills, sound commercial awareness and the ability to manage and motivate a small team are all essential.

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Both the above posts will run for a guaranteed 6 months. Continued employment thereafter will depend on whether or not further funding can be secured.

Interested? Then please write with a full c.v. together with a letter demonstrating how you meet our requirements to: Will Clark, Triangle House, 328 High Road, Wembley, Middlesex HA9 6AU. Applications to be received by 20th August, 1990. Interviews will be held on 29th August, 1990.



North West London Partnership Ltd.

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Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals

ACADEMIC AUDIT UNIT POST OF DEPUTY DIRECTOR

The Academic Audit Unit, which has recently been established to monitor quality assurance mechanisms in UK universities, wishes to appoint a Deputy Director, to assist the Director in the establishment, operation and development of the Unit. Salary will be in the professional range for UK universities; the post will be for three years in the first instance, and will be renewable from 1 October 1990, or as soon as possible thereafter. The Unit is to be located on the campus of the University of Birmingham.

POST OF ADMINISTRATOR /SECRETARY

The Academic Audit Unit wishes to appoint an administrator/secretary to join the team which will establish, operate and develop the Unit. Salary will be on Grade 1 (£11,399 - £13,459) or Grade 2 (£14,039 - £16,165) of the scales for administrative staff in UK universities; the post will be for three years in the first instance, and will be renewable from 1 October 1990. The Unit is to be located on the campus of the University of Birmingham.

Further details of both the above posts are available from: David Young, Assistant Secretary, Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals, 29 Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9EZ (071-387 9231) to whom applications should be submitted by 29 August 1990.

RESEARCH OFFICER c.£11,000 (three days per week)

The Law Society is the governing body for solicitors in England and Wales and last year set up a Research and Policy Planning Unit. The purpose of this unit is to develop a programme of research, including projects on the usage of solicitors' services and the ways in which solicitors' firms are structured to offer particular types of service. We are currently wishing to recruit a part-time researcher to help develop and carry out this programme of work.

The position will involve preparing proposals on a wide range of issues related to solicitors and their work, assisting in the implementation of current research, writing research reports and managing external research projects.

Ideally you will have a postgraduate degree in law or the social sciences, and previous experience conducting research would be an advantage. We are looking for someone to work three days per week, but this post will not involve job-sharing as the Research Officer will be developing his/her own projects.

We offer an excellent benefits package which includes 15 days holiday, BUPA (after two years service), pension scheme, season ticket loans and a subsidised staff restaurant.

Interested applicants should send CV and covering letter to Barbara McKelvey, Personnel Manager, The Law Society, 113 Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1PL.

Closing date for applications is Friday 24th August 1990. The Law Society is committed to Equal Opportunities.



THE LAW SOCIETY

Walford HYDE PARK, SOUTH AUSTRALIA

HEAD

Owing to the retirement of the present Headmistress, Miss Helen M.J. Reid, after 21 years of service to the School, the Council of Governors is calling for applications for the position of Head. The appointment will start from the beginning of 1992.

Walford is a leading school for girls with an enrolment of 650 of whom 55 are boarders. It strives to achieve excellence in academics while offering a sound and liberal Christian education to all students. Suitable applicants should have a wide experience as well as a vision of education for young women to meet the challenges of tomorrow.

Further information about the position and the School is available upon application to:-

The Secretary

The Council of Governors
Walford Anglican School for Girls Inc.
G.R.O. Box 466
Adelaide, South Australia 5001

Applications will close on the 15th September, 1990.

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Applications are invited for the post of Administrative Officer for the UK National Grant Awarding Agency for the EC ERASMUS programme.

Applicants will be expected to demonstrate management and administrative skills, an ability to work effectively with members of Higher Education and be familiar with Computing and Statistical Analysis.

Salary will be on the Administrative Scale II £18,898 - £22,311 of scale IV £20,272 - £24,172 per annum depending on experience and qualifications.

Further particulars may be obtained from Mr J. E. Reilly, Director, UK ERASMUS Student Grants Council, The Registry, The University, Canterbury, Kent, CT2 7PD, not later than 20th September, 1990. Please quote Reference Number 4996.

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EDUCATION

The first lessons of freedom

Restored liberty in Hungary is making a private university possible, reports Ernest Beck

As Hungary's first non-communist government in more than 40 years steers the country towards privatisation and a market economy, a group of disgruntled professors, anxious to upgrade the dilapidated state university system, has vowed to take the academic community down the same path with the opening this autumn of Hungary's first private university.

Although Corvin University, as it is called, will be able to offer only a few courses in September from its fledgling music and sports facilities as a prelude to a broader postgraduate programme in 1991, its mere presence and independent spirit have already shaken up Hungary's troubled universities, which, until this year, have suffered from the suffocating tutelage of the recently dismantled one-party state.

The founders of Corvin believe that competition is desperately needed to help create a new, highly educated elite which can lead the country out of its predicament and force crumbling state institutions to implement faster reform and previously unknown policies, such as cost-effective management and innovative course offerings.

"What we have now is an educational system based on the mentality of a centrally-planned economy and a teaching staff chosen on ideological and political grounds," says György Gereby, a professor of medieval philosophy at the University of Pécs, who is an adviser to the Corvin University Foundation.

The problems facing Hungary's state universities, which have about 30,000 students in Budapest, Pécs, Szeged and Debrecen, are manifold. Dwindling funds caused by the catastrophic economic situation have left facilities such as classrooms, laboratories, libraries and dormitories in poor condition. The quality of teaching has declined because of the strict separation of university and academic research, while tenured professors were encouraged not to publish because administrators feared that creative endeavours might lead to "political deviations".

"A totalitarian ideology must always prevent the exchange of



Seat of tradition: the hall of Debrecen University, where Hungary's catastrophic economic situation has left facilities in poor condition

ideas," Dr Gereby says. Like many other young academics, he was denied a job in the early 1980s because of his political activities, in his case the peace movement, and because he refused to join the Communist party.

Students also suffered from a rigid academic structure. They were barred from inter-disciplinary studies and courses and foreign exchange programmes were restricted. Instead, they were required to take ideological courses such as "The History of the Struggle of the Working Class". Business and management courses in the western sense did not exist.

A Unesco study compiled in 1988 concluded that, while Hungarian secondary school graduates ranked in the top three in many subjects when compared internationally, university graduates were placed near the bottom.

Dr Gereby says Corvin will reverse this trend by following the western model with a flexible curriculum based on the Erasmus Project of the EC; students will be selected after a rigorous entrance

examination designed by each faculty and asked to pay tuition fees (the state university is free) of about £1,000 a year. Foreign language proficiency will be emphasised and faculty members, who now earn about £120 a month, can expect salaries five times that amount.

While administrators in the state system agree that change is urgently needed at their schools, they have given Corvin a lukewarm reception, fearing that a competitive environment will only deplete the top students and faculty, which are the essential resources needed to carry out reforms.

Erno Zalai, the vice-rector of the Budapest University of Economic Sciences, says: "I am afraid of rushing into the unknown because, if we do something wrong now, it will be more difficult to correct later on."

He describes Corvin backers as "well-intentioned but naive idealists" with little practical administrative experience. Their main

motivation, he believes, is fear that their jobs are threatened by possible budget cuts. "The existence of excellent state universities in Britain and West Germany is proof that 'competitiveness' in the form of private education is not necessarily needed to increase quality," he says.

Rather than establishing competing schools, he prefers reform of the existing universities through internal restructuring, along the lines he has already carried out at Budapest University in the past few years, even before democracy came to Hungary. These include a pioneering school of management and a reduction in weekly lecture hours.

Ultimately, the success of Corvin and the revamping of the state system will hinge on financing. This is a difficult task in a country strapped for cash. And, as the Corvin founders must admit, their "private" university might at first be "semi-private" because it has asked for matching funds from the Ministry of Education and Culture to cover start-up costs until the school can fully stand on

its own. The ministry, however, is facing a budget cutback, and first indications, according to Karoly Manherz, the state secretary in charge of higher education, are that Corvin will have to fend for itself. "I am in favour of private schools and universities, but they cannot expect to receive any money from the state," Mr Manherz says.

Some money has been promised from Austria's Allianz Insurance Company for the sports faculty, and requests have been submitted to the Ford and Soros Foundations in the United States. Corvin has also applied to the Budapest city authorities to use buildings which have been returned to the government from the former Communist party, or those vacated by departing Soviet soldiers. No answer has yet been received.

Hungarian higher education may well end up being a mixed system: one that mirrors that country's new political pluralism, its "social market" economic structure, and its desire to return to the European fold after decades of isolation.

NOTICEBOARD

Homeless victims

THE education of homeless children can be so disrupted it is almost impossible for them to succeed at school, according to Her Majesty's Inspectorate. A report just published by the inspectors estimates that last year there were at least 164,000 homeless children, many from ethnic minorities. Inspectors who visited primary and secondary schools in Blackpool, Great Yarmouth, Manchester and London found the children's education suffered through stress related to poor living conditions and frequent changes of address.

Ensuring continuity and assessing their performance were often frustrated by the brief periods they stayed at a school, which varied between two days and two years. Records sent from school to school were slow to arrive and often of little use because they were not in a standard format.

Some homeless pupils suffered social and emotional problems, making it difficult for them to mix with other children and resulting in aggressive behaviour and poor attendance and attention.

The national curriculum, the report says, "should ensure greater continuity and progression" in the education of homeless children by standardising assessment procedures and record keeping.

if the number of trainers remains insufficient.

They urge employers and employees to call up an inventory of their existing stock of skills by taking the new National Vocational Qualifications. Workers should be tested over a range of skills, including basic computing and accounting. Those who show most promise should then be sent on day-release and evening courses to improve their deficiencies before gaining a high-level qualification, and be rewarded with more pay and managerial responsibility.

In and out

JACK STRAW is continuing his campaign against schools that opt out of local government control, pointing out that in the last seven polls of parents, six had shown a preference for staying with the local authority.

However, the Labour front bench education spokesman's claim that the scheme was a "monumental failure" was described by John MacGregor, the education secretary, as "utter nonsense".

Mr MacGregor maintains that, with 44 grant-maintained schools in operation this September, the scheme is proving successful and will continue to grow.

Rearming

OXFORD University has registered its coat of arms as a trade mark, enabling it to exercise tighter control over the T-shirts, coffee mugs and other products which bear its name. The university plans to launch a range of official goods over the next 18 months manufactured and designed by The Oxford Collection, a subsidiary of Liberty plc.

Conflicting view

ACADEMICS from Britain, Argentina, America and Chile are to hold a seminar at Keele University in September to discuss the 1982 Falklands war from the viewpoints of their respective countries. The seminar, which is being organised by Dr Alex Danchev, of Keele's Department of International Relations, will also include speakers from the foreign office and the defence ministry.

TOM GILES

Skill shortage

BRITAIN lacks enough skilled teachers in the workplace to meet increased demand for vocational training, according to a report "Training without Trainers" which is published today by the Anglo-German Foundation.

The report claims that while Germany has more than a million skilled "master" workers to give leadership in on-the-job training, the past failure of British companies to invest in youth training has resulted in a lack of adults ready to teach new trainees.

The authors of the report, Professor Richard Rose of Strathclyde University, and Günter Wignaneck of the Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin, say the British government's policy of providing cash grants to expand the demand for training will only reduce "already low training standards".

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Interested applicants are encouraged to make informal contact with Professor David Pendall (0223 814080 extension 3250).

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Further particulars should be obtained from the Personnel Office, University College of Swansea, Singleton Park, Swansea, SA2 8PP, to which office applications (10 copies) should be sent by Monday October 15, 1990.

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The University of Buckingham

Guilty of bias on the beat?

Does sex discrimination still prevent Britain's policewomen from reaching the top ranks? Sally Brompton reports

Fifteen years after the introduction of sex discrimination legislation, it has been suggested that Britain's women police officers have less chance of promotion than their male counterparts.

The news that a police woman's lot is not a happy one highlights the dilemma that exists within the 52 police forces throughout the United Kingdom. Despite the authorities' attempts to eradicate differentials between men and women, there is still significant unofficial resistance to equality in the traditional tough-guy world of cops and robbers.

A report by Zsuzsanna Adler, a senior lecturer at the Police Staff College, Bramshill, reveals that while women police officers have almost doubled in number from 5.4 per cent in 1975 to 10.5 per cent in 1988, the number above the rank of constable has halved from 11.2 per cent in 1971 to 5.8 per cent in 1988.

Her report, published in *Personnel Management* magazine, comes as Britain's most senior policewoman, Alison Halford, the assistant chief constable of Merseyside, is suing her employers — including the home secretary — for alleged sex discrimination.

Miss Halford, who has failed to win promotion three times in two years, began her three-year campaign with a letter to *Police Review* claiming that senior officers showed "a bewildering inability to cope with a woman of comparable rank".

While Miss Halford's allegations are privately supported by many of her female colleagues, most are reluctant to air them publicly for fear of further inhibiting their chances of promotion.

Chief Superintendent Pauline Low, who is in charge of personnel and training for the Avon and Somerset police authority, believes that there is a paternalistic attitude among some senior officers that colours their view of women in the force. According to Miss Low, they subscribe to the philosophy which proclaims that "I'm a father, I'm a husband and I see women as being gentle, supportive, nice girls, and I wouldn't want my daughter to join the police force".

Miss Low, who is retiring at the end of the month after 30 years with the police, believes that there is "a nervousness at senior levels about women officers". She acknowledges

the difficulty in proving discrimination. "If any decisions have been made against me which I might think were due to discrimination because of my sex, I have got male colleagues who would say, 'I wasn't given that posting either'."

She disputes the popular "macho" image of police work, pointing out that public order is only a tiny part of the job and that, anyway, "it is now reckoned that women are just as good at public order as men".

Miss Low believes that, in many cases, women themselves are to blame for their lack of promotion. According to Home Office figures, there were only ten women among the 777 police officers in the United Kingdom who applied to go on senior command courses in the eight years between 1982 and 1989. Of the 166 officers eventually selected to go on the courses, only one was a woman, and she made it in 1989.

"We tend to think, let's do it quietly and gently and not make them hate us or resent us, and maybe that's what we shouldn't do," Miss Low says. She cites the occasion when, qualified for the rank of assistant chief constable, she failed to apply when the job became available in her force because the chief constable wanted a CID assistant. "That was me being sensible and logical and deferential, but I'm quite sure that most men wouldn't have taken any notice and would have applied anyway."

So far the Metropolitan Police is leading in terms of instituting official policies in an attempt to prevent discrimination, and recent changes in procedures include the creation of an equal opportunities unit and a "detailed and effective" grievance procedure. All recruitment selection board members are required to attend a course that has an "emphasis on equal opportunities".

Women in the Met are now allowed to become authorised firearms officers and members of the diplomatic protection group, the CID, the mounted branch, the dog section and the traffic division. Scotland Yard is lobbying the Home Office to remove the existing restrictions on part-time work and job sharing.

That is also favoured by Chief Inspector Bill Pattinson, the equal opportunities officer for Greater Manchester police, the second biggest force in the country, with

more than 7,000 officers, of whom 861 are women. Of the 1,727 officers above the rank of constable, however, only 61 are female. "It doesn't look very good in isolation, does it?" Mr Pattinson says, "but my job is to try to do something about that." Of the 27 chief superintendents in Greater Manchester, only one is a woman.

Mr Pattinson blames the low percentage of senior women in the force on their high turnover. "We have a huge exchange of women officers with five to ten years' experience, and only 26 female officers have served for more than 20 years. The majority leave because they get married and have children. Men usually stay for 30 years."

For that reason he is looking at the feasibility of installing 24-hour canteens, and would like to see the introduction of job sharing and part-time work. These are prevented by the Home Office's police regulations, which require officers to work a 40-hour week. "We've got to look at ways of retaining women and encouraging them to come back," he says. "The ones who stay are given every opportunity for promotion along with everyone else."

Despite the efforts of the Metropolitan Police to rid the force of discrimination, a

recent report identified various factors that inhibit female promotion, including stereotypical deployment and lack of operational experience.

"Women are more often given traditional women's duties like dealing with children, rape victims and sexual abuse situations for which they may have no specialist training," says Sandra Jones, a senior research fellow in the department of government at Brunel University, whose book, *Policewomen and Equality*, uncovers "lots of informal practices that subvert the reality of the Sex Discrimination Act".

Ms Jones's conclusion is that women are frequently put on "police-station-type duties often associated with a woman's role, or on beats where they are thought to be less at risk from physical harm, which are often the most boring beats". Many of the younger policewomen she interviewed resented not being allowed to take part in tougher assignments and felt that their career prospects suffered as a result.

She believes that police women have similar problems in every country because "it's considered to be a very male, very macho profession. The idea is that controlling order is a male job and women are there to be controlled — not to do the controlling".



Soft side: despite programmes to ensure equal opportunity, this new recruit undergoing training at Hendon is unlikely to be given the tougher, promotion-ladder assignments

SLOW PROGRESS FOR AMERICA'S POLICEWOMEN

Cagney and Lacey might give the impression that women have been welcomed into the police forces of America. The reality is not so clear.

Since the mid 1970s, anti-discrimination rulings across the country have obliged forces to recruit large numbers of women, as well as members of racial minorities. Women now perform almost all duties traditionally performed by male officers, including detective work and patrolling the toughest inner-city areas. Physical requirements have been relaxed and, unlike in Britain, female officers usually wear virtually identical uniforms to their male counterparts and carry the same weapons.

In New York, it is not uncommon to see a plain-clothes woman officer in the subway, for example, with gun drawn, throwing a suspect against a wall. In dangerous conditions, however, women usually work with male partners, and they do not generally work in command-style tactical squads and the strong-arm units.

Women officers from coast to coast complain that the forces have been reluctant to accept them in their ranks and to offer them promotion. Take, for example, the FBI, the elite federal crime force. After nearly two decades of "affirmative action" in recruiting, female agents account for just under 10 per cent of its ranks.

The record is a little better in some of the big city police forces. In Los Angeles, where the police academy is being forced to accept 25 per cent female trainees until women make up 20 per cent of the force, women account for 12.5 per cent of



Art vs. life: Cagney and Lacey

officers. In New York, the figure is 12.5 per cent and rising fast. However, a higher proportion of women officers than men occupy lower ranks and perform duties inside police stations and headquarters.

Dorothy Schulz, the president of the Northeast Association of Women Police Officers, says small local forces are particularly resistant to the idea of female patrolmen and sheriffs. "A number of small-town chiefs have told us that they would hire women if they could find them. I take that with a grain of salt. If people are not pushed, if the public is satisfied with the status quo, the attitude of many police officials is, why change it?"

Women have shown themselves to be more adept than men in using negotia-

tion to defuse confrontation. Women officers, as well as overtly homosexual males, are compatible with the trend across the country to change the perception of police to community or "public safety" officers, rather than tough enforcers of the law. However, with murder and violent crime at an all-time record, many male officers are said to be highly reluctant to work with women partners.

In Los Angeles, women police say they are subject to a variety of harassing practices until they prove that they can pull their weight. The pressure from men to prove themselves physically in action often prompts in them the "John Wayne syndrome", which means they try to out-smoke, out-drink and out-swear their male colleagues to win their respect.

According to James Finckenaer, professor of criminal justice at Rutgers University: "Police are traditionally conservative and macho. Their attitude to women is much like the military holds to women in combat. The first women in police academies had to overcome tremendous obstacles."

The most famous woman police officer in America is Elizabeth Watson, who was appointed chief of police for Houston, Texas, earlier this year. Ms Watson, appointed by a woman mayor, was previously in charge of Houston's experiment in making police officers more accessible to citizens. The only other woman to reach anything close to that rank was Penny Harrington, who headed the police force of Portland, Oregon, for six months in 1985.

CHARLES BREMNER

He sourced his compatible in The Times.



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GET THEM THROUGH THE TIMES

Why some of Australia's most powerful women were prepared to wrap up

NOW, we have undressing for success. Brainy women can be beautiful and feminine and hardly threatening at all when they are wearing very few clothes. Heidi Smith, whose photograph of the Australian minister for the arts, sport and environment wearing a red sheet on her head startled people, says you do not have to be dumb to be sensual.

Ms Smith has an exhibition, *Because Beauty is Timeless*, in Canberra which proves it. It was for the exhibition that she draped the sheet around the minister's head, then snapped her bare-shouldered and smouldering. The minister, Ros Kelly, preferred a less startling picture of herself in a red dress and requested that it replace the sheet shot, which turned up in a magazine and grabbed the headlines anyway.

The consensus was that the sheet did more for the minister than the dress, and there is no doubt that Ms Smith has a knack with sheets. For her exhibition, she draped them bewitchingly around 24 other serious achievers, and they all look gorgeous.

Jill Hickson, her agent and the wife of the former New South Wales premier Neville Wran, is entrancing with her back bare and her sheet tucked underneath her arms. So is Pat O'Shane, an Aboriginal magistrate, while Maggie Dawkins, the wife of the federal education and training minister, positively glows with hers swathed around her body. Overlooked high-fliers are gnashing their teeth.

The point, says Ms Smith, was to show that women can be both intelligent and beautiful: the one does not exclude the other. She agrees the photographs are unashamedly flattering. "Why shouldn't they be?" she asks. "The only women interested in having character studies of themselves are over 70."

Most of her subjects are

Beauty and the sheets



Semi-naked ambition: Jill Hickson by Heidi Smith

aged between 30 and 50, and were chosen first for their intelligence and second for their faces. "By the time a woman is 40 she is starting to look interesting. She has much more character, and she has lost the blandness of young beauty," says Ms Smith, who is over 40 and beautiful. She thinks it absurd to suggest that her photographs are not true representations. "The camera can't photograph something that's not there," she says. "It reproduces an image, like a mirror. You can have an image of yourself when you wake up first thing

in the morning, and you can have another one, just as accurate, of yourself by candlelight."

There is not even the faintest suggestion of the night before in her work which, she says, distinguishes it from the new wave of "boudoir" photography coming out of America. "To look glamorous, American women want to be photographed *Penthouse*-style. It's so tasteless, it's horrifying."

She used sheets not to titillate, but to get rid of any adornment that could distract from the subject. "I wanted to find a common denominator."

Ms Smith runs a studio in Canberra with one assistant and seven photographers. She trains all her employees, and also lectures. "Mainly I do portraits," she says. "But I also like to get out into the country at six in the morning to do landscapes." Last year she spent three months living among the Tiwi tribe on Melville and Bathurst Islands, north of Darwin, to produce a book of photographs which will be published in September.

She is now planning the second part of her work on women in sheets. Some will be from commissions, and some will be women she chooses herself. She would like to do something similar with men, "but finding a theme to hold them together, that's the difficulty," she says. Sheets do not seem to be an option; men do, not undress for success.

BARBARA TONER

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ONCE again, be logging ce run up by the Royal Stace English Nat year may see an allegorich such. Partly only been up has mounted of opera. acquired a de 1981 2 million been increas 1984 4 million shed report that the costs for the force. The 2.7 m by early last. Burenholm w director, and unknown. M brought in to did gain a pe his conductu production. B in March this still has huge med difficulties. President wanted dra bump the p seems in da. Bostle's disa look the gover a 40 per cent paces, though 1100 seats w 1200.80) How top-price tick will still lag. Caveno Gioro. No cob

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Auntie's

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TELEVISION

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ARTS

Bastille stormy?

ONCE again the British appear to be lagging behind Europe. Deficits run up by the Royal Opera House, Royal Shakespeare Company and English National Opera in the last year may seem substantial, but the French manage such matters with an altogether more grandiose touch. Paris's Bastille Opera has only been open a year, and so far has mounted just one mini-season of operas, yet it has already acquired a deficit of Fr300 million (£31.2 million). That is despite a government subsidy that has just been increased to Fr445 million (£46.4 million). A newly-published report by state auditors says that the costs will continue to soar for the foreseeable future.

The 2,700-seat Bastille hit trouble early last year when Daniel Barenboim was sacked as artistic director, and the comparatively unknown Myung-Whun Chung brought in to replace him. Chung did gain a personal success with his conducting of the opening production, Berlioz's *Les Troyens*, in March this year. But the theatre still has huge operating and technical difficulties to overcome, and President Mitterrand's much-vaunted dream of the Bastille being the "people's opera" also seems in danger. To ease the Bastille's disastrous financial outlook, the government has imposed a 40 per cent increase on all ticket prices, though it guarantees that 1,100 seats will stay below Fr200 (£20.80). However, the Bastille's top-price ticket, at Fr520 (£55), will still lag some way behind Covent Garden's, which now exceeds £100.

No cobbling

YOUNG musicians, EC politicians, shoemakers: this motley crew will come together in Leipzig later this month with a single purpose. The first "Prix de l'Initiative Européenne" will be awarded to the European Community Youth Orchestra at its Leipzig concert on August 30. Sponsored by the French division of the venerable Northampton shoe-making concern, Church and Co, the award (Fr100,000 or £10,400) is for "the development of communication, co-operation and unity" within Europe. The award is presented to the ECYO at an appropriate moment: in that orchestra's history, hitherto confined to EC tours and membership, it is currently making its first visit to Eastern Europe.

Auntie's entity

THE BBC has plans to set up an affiliate film production company, probably called BBC Films. It would have access to a large part of the annual BBC drama budget (approximately £30 million a year), but would also seek outside funding. Under the direction of Mark Shivas, BBC drama has already been making investments of up to £500,000 in a variety of feature films: *Fellow Traveller*, *Henry V* and *Object of Beauty* among them. The new entity would step up that activity considerably; BBC Films would have the



Success: Myung-Whun Chung capacity to back high quality films in the £2.5 million to £5 million range. Undecided as yet is who will head the new company, which is scheduled to begin operating next year.

Lady of mystery

FOUR years of fund-raising have enabled the Smith Gallery in Stirling to buy its first Joshua Reynolds painting for £40,000, from an anonymous Glasgow dealer who clearly has rare patience. The waiting time was not wasted, however, since the gallery has now had the unsigned portrait authenticated, and made some discoveries about the subject.

Her maiden name was Harriet Dutens. Lt Colonel James Callender fell in love "at first sight" with her, at the opera in London in 1772. Within a fortnight she became the second Mrs Callender (the first, Christina Forbes, had died the year before). Harriet was the daughter of a celebrated court jeweller, Pierre Dutens. Reynolds painted the portrait a month after the July wedding, but ten months later his subject died, aged 23, giving birth to her daughter. The gallery has found Colonel Callender's diary, in which he recorded his own tribute: "In addition to her personal attributes I think my wife to be possessed of many admirable qualities and accomplishments which made me very much her debtor. She did not merely practice music as an art but studied it as a science, and to her I am indebted for any little knowledge of astronomy which I afterwards possessed."

Partners' patience

HERE is a warning to all playwrights tempted to collaborate. The end product may be a decent script, but it might not reach the West End stage for 400 years. Shakespeare, it seems, collaborated with Thomas Dekker, Henry Chettle, Anthony Munday and Thomas Heywood on *Sir Thomas More*, a commission for the Rose Theatre in 1593. It fell foul of political censorship. The Lord Chamberlain's office told the playwrights that they included rebel scenes "at their peril". The script was found in 1844 and is in the British Library, but it was not performed until 1964 when Frank Dunlop directed it at Nottingham with Ian McKellen in the title role. Now the Stage One Theatre Company, dedicated to unearthing ancient plays, is to stage *Sir Thomas More* from September 4 to 29 at the Shaw Theatre, Euston Road.

THEATRE

Backroom to boardroom

The Royal Shakespeare Company's "administrative genius" is defecting to the Royal National Theatre. Simon Taft meets the midwife of creative excellence in Britain's subsidised theatre

There has not been a more crucial theatrical transfer in years. Genista McIntosh's decision to quit the Royal Shakespeare Company and become the administrative boss of the National Theatre does not quite leave Adrian Noble's plans for the revival of RSC fortunes in ruins, but the central figure of his management has gone. Meanwhile, the unstoppable rise of McIntosh continues. She is now the most powerful woman in British theatre.

When Noble's appointment to succeed Terry Hands as the RSC's artistic director was announced in March, he was flanked by two new lieutenants: Michael Attenborough, the producer/director son of Sir Richard, and McIntosh. She was to be chief mechanic for the machine being created to drive the company out of its economic troubles.

Her name meant almost nothing to theatre critics, and nothing at all to audiences, yet during her 18 years at the RSC she became the administrative brain behind a theatrical structure of immense complexity, spread around six theatres and two towns a hundred miles apart.

Jenny, as she is known, became more popular with the actors than the directors, because of her sensitivity to their needs. In her four years as senior administrator she developed a kind of genius for fitting together casts, writers, directors, designers and stages.

McIntosh, in fact, was the person who brought Noble into the company, ten years ago. According to Noble, "She's St Peter. She doesn't make the final decision, but she holds the key, and nobody comes through the gate unless she lets them in. She simply made my *Plautus* season happen. She was my lieutenant. Jenny seems to see the whole world with total clarity."

Having played a major part in the RSC's decision to close the Barbican theatres this winter, to stop the deficit hurting towards £2.9 million, McIntosh was then the one who prevented a breakdown of relations with the Barbican management. Noble had been outspoken in his criticism of the Barbican's theatres, backstage facilities and bureaucracy. In what seemed to some like a discourteous snub, the RSC had failed to tell the new Barbican director, Detta O'Callaghan, of their decision to close the theatres before they announced it to the Press.

In April, Noble began his year of preparation for taking over from Hands. Two weeks before McIntosh handed in her notice, he felt bold enough about his team to dispense with the cohort of associate directors. "It has come as a shock," Noble said, when McIntosh's move was announced, two weeks ago. "These past few weeks have been thrilling, as the three of us worked on plans for the next five years or so, defining and refining a vision shared between us. But I'm not bitter — the opportunity for her is unique."

The opportunity is to succeed

David Aukin at the National Theatre. He leaves in December after only two years as the first executive director in partnership with Sir Peter Hall's successor as artistic director, Richard Eyre.

The National, in contrast to the RSC and to its own past history under the single leadership of Hall, is deceptively tranquil at present. In 1987 an 18-month dispute with stage technicians over restrictive practices was finally resolved, saving the company £340,000. Financial problems which brought the temporary

closure of the Cottesloe to save £500,000 two years ago have been overcome under Lord Rayne's chairmanship of the board. The casting rows which used to reduce actors to tears are things of the past with Eyre.

Nevertheless, McIntosh will have to find the elusive formula for co-ordinating the activities on the three National stages: the Olivier, Lyttelton and Cottesloe. She will also need to tackle huge technical problems, especially at the Olivier. Audiences and casts have been getting impatient at the

rumbling, grinding drum-revolve, which broke down famously at the first night of *The Crucible* last month. And in May, a performance of *Sunday in the Park With George* was cancelled after a flat fell onto the stage.

Although the lyric theatre has always had its non-artistic chieftains — "intendants" such as Jeremy Isaacs at Covent Garden and Peter Jonas at English National Opera — McIntosh will be the role model for the emerging specialist administrator in the dramatic theatre. Her word is

"enabler". "It's someone who engineers things. You've got to have a grasp of every aspect of all that is happening." It is a kind of midwifery, and while there is nothing maternally about her slim figure and tumbling auburn hair, McIntosh is a mother figure, "careful, not frugal", who admits to switching off lights and tidying up after others.

Unlike Aukin, McIntosh has no theatrical background. She never wanted to be an actor or a director, and walked into theatre after university as if into a dream. "I am not a thwarted anything. My intentions have coincided with the opportunities that have come my way. I've been unreasonably fortunate."

She read philosophy and sociology at York, where her tutor was Laurie Taylor, then worked briefly for a firm of theatre agents. A year later she was appointed casting director for the RSC. Peter Brook's *Midsummer Night's Dream* was her first casting job, an experience she describes as "like breathing pure oxygen for the first time". After five years, and still only 29, she took over from Maurice Daniels as planning controller.

She dodges the question of whether she applied for the NT job or was head-hunted. "I won't be drawn on that. Let's say that it's a small world and everybody knows everybody else."

British theatre's future artistic health relies on people knowing not only everyone else, but what everyone else is doing. McIntosh believes in the "network" and manipulates it brilliantly. She believes the way forward for both the flagship theatre companies is to pay more attention to what is being done in the regions.

The Glasgow Citizens' Theatre, for example, has been highly successful at finding directors and designers. The National's policy of co-production with regional theatres, such as *The Misanthrope* with the Bristol Old Vic, is applauded at the RSC where the possibilities are being examined, and there will be more such co-productions at the NT. McIntosh again: "I have to make the best use of my tenuous contact with everybody."

As senior administrator of the RSC, McIntosh found herself negotiating for the very life of the company — with the Arts Council, the Government, even Parliament. Theatre at all levels, she says, is suffering from a combination of repeated changes in the funding system and the effects of under-subsidy, and they have to stand together to maintain standards.

"Are these companies of value to us? What do they represent? What do they say about the cultural health of the nation? If you want to have companies like the RSC and the National, and you believe they are valuable, there is a price to pay. If you want a more mature society, it's necessary to keep these questions at the forefront of people's minds. That's how important it is."



McIntosh: "If you want companies like the RSC and the National, there is a price to pay"

CRITICS' CHOICE: THEATRE AND CABARET

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of current London shows can be found overleaf.

NEW IN LONDON

ARDEN OF FAVERSHAM: England's first domestic tragedy, author unknown, based on a true murder. Produced by Classics on a Shostet, a newish company influenced by Polish theatre. Old Red Lion, 418 St John's Street, EC1 (071-837 7816). Underground: Angel. Preview Tues, Wed 8pm. Opens Thurs 7pm. Then Tues-Sun 8pm. Until Sept 2.

KEAN: Derek Jacobi heads a strong cast in Sartre's drama about the young actor with a lifelong identity crisis. Old Vic, Waterloo Road, SE1 (071-928 7816). Underground: Waterloo. Preview today 7.30pm, press night tomorrow 7.30pm, opens Wed 7.30pm, then Mon-Fri 7.30pm, Sat 8pm, Sun 4pm (until Sept 1) and Wed 2.30pm. Until Nov 24.

PIANO: New Trevor Griffiths play set in 1800 Russia — moving on from where Chekhov left off. National Theatre, Cottesloe, South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252). Underground/BF: Waterloo. Preview Mon, Tues 7.30pm, press night Wed 7.30pm, opens Thurs 7.30pm. In repertory.

OUTSIDE LONDON

BAGNOR: *Moll Flanders*. Wendy Toye directs Claire Luckham's new version of Moll's adventures, using catchy tunes from *The Beggar's Opera*. Watermill Theatre, Bagnor, nr Newbury (0335 48044). Opens Tues 7.30pm, then Tues-Sat 7.30pm, mats on Thurs Aug 16, 23, Sept 6, 20, and Sat Aug 25, Sept 1, 2, 30pm. Until Sept 8.

BROMLEY: *High Flyers*. Glynn Barber, Simon Cadell, James Hazeldine lead lively cast in new Paul Kember play about sexual shenanigans at a Swiss chalet. Said to be too adult for children. Churchill Theatre, High Street (081-460 6677). Preview Tues, Wed 7.45pm. Opens Thurs 7.45pm. Then Mon-Sat 7.45pm. Mats Thurs and Sat 2.30pm. Until Aug 25.

EDINBURGH: *King Lear*/A *Midsummer Night's Dream*. Renaissance Theatre's triumph tour in Edinburgh for two weeks: Richard Briers as Lear and Bottom. King's Theatre, Leven Street (Festival Box Office: 031-225 5755). *Dream*: Mon, Thurs, Sat 7.30pm, press night Wed 7.30pm, opens Thurs 7.30pm; mats Sat 2.30pm. Until Aug 25.

GLASGOW: *A Doll's House*. Ingmar Bergman's production for the Royal Dramatic Theatre (Dramaten) of Stockholm; last visiting company of the "Five Theatres of the World" season. Theatre Royal, Hope Street (041-332 9000). Tonight until Sat 7.30pm.

SCARBOROUGH: *Abiding Passions*. Ayckbourn's production of *Thérèse Raquin* (so why change the title?). Zola's powerful drama.

Stephen Joseph Theatre in the Round (0723 370541). Preview from Wed 7.45pm. Opens Aug 13, 7.45pm. Then in repertory.

JEREMY KINGSTON

LONDON CABARET

COMEDY CAFE: Two of our sharpest women, Jenny Leavelle and Michelle Read, with Dave McCabe and Ian McEwan. Comedy Café, 66 Rivington St, EC2 (071 256 1242). Old St tube. Thurs. Doors 7.30pm, show 8pm. £5 (includes £1 voucher towards food).

FRIDAY NIGHT VARIETY: Tony Allen hosts songs and sketches from The Frocks, madcap magic from Otis Cannelton and musical comedy from Richard Norton. The Electric Cinema, 191 Portobello Rd, W11 (071 792 2020). Ledbury Grove tube. Fri. Doors 8.30pm, show 9pm. £5.

MECCANO CLUB: Stand-up with downbeat Dave Cohen, lugubrious Tim Clark and engaging Chameleon Hughes; Jeff Green compares. The Market Tavern, 2 Essex Rd, N1 (081 800 2235). Angel tube. Sat. Doors 8.30pm, show 9pm. £3.50 (£3 concs).

PUNCHLINE COMEDY CLUB: Piers Hollins has an original clownish act. With Andy Linden, Steve Bowditch and Phil "Porky" Jupitus. The Railway, West End Lane, NW6 (081 869 8351). West Hampstead tube/BF. Sat. Doors

8.30pm, show 9.15pm. £3.50 (£2.50 concs). Air conditioned.

DOWNSTAIRS AT THE KING'S HEAD: Skilled and ridiculous, apparently disconnected, observations from Michael Redmond. With Jeff Green, The Amazing Mr Smith, Tom Barnes, Rhymus Rus and Mark Lamm. The King's Head, 2 Crouch End Hill, The Broadway, N6 (081 340 1028). Finsbury Park tube then W7 tube. Sun. Doors 7.45pm, show 8.30pm. £3.50 (£2.50 concs) plus 50p membership.

EDINBURGH CABARET

JIMMY TINGLE: For the first time in Britain, an excellent, politically subversive American comedian. Assembly Rooms, 54 George St, (031 229 2425). Nightly from Fri. 10pm. £5 (£4 concs).

MCCLENNAN ALONE: A welcome return to Edinburgh, Oscar McClellan's often macabre and usually surreal stories of life on the down side make him unmissable. Gilded Ballroom Theatre, 233 Cowgate (031 229 2151). Daily from Friday. 2pm. £4 (£3 concs).

SIMON FANSHAW'S HEADLINES: Scalpel-sharp observations on the topical and the newsworthy that will come as a huge surprise to those who know him only from *That's Life*. Assembly Rooms, George St, (031 229 2425). Nightly from Friday. 8.30pm. £5 (£5 concs).

CAROL SARLER

FINAL 7 PERFORMANCES! MUST END THIS SATURDAY!

THE PETER HALL COMPANY

The Wild Duck
by HENRIK IBSEN



"THE FINEST PRODUCTION IN THE WEST END...FLAWLESSLY ACTED"

Sunday Telegraph

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Not the ninetieth birthday honours

ROYALIST media historians are going to find this hard to credit in years to come, but there were several television programmes over the weekend which did not feature the Queen Mother in any way at all. Her Majesty was, for instance, nowhere visible in the Open University's Maths Foundation Course shown at 6.50 on Saturday morning, nor in episode 17 of the *Mahabharata*, a 91-part epic Indian drama of old love in Hindi with English sub-titles at 2.45 that afternoon.

There was equally little trace of her in last night's final of the British motor cycling Grand Prix, nor was she to be seen in the American football game on Channel 4. Counting her chat with Alistair Burnet of ITN, she did, however, occupy nearly nine hours of prime-time weekend viewing, not counting news bulletins or weather forecasts, and it is to be hoped that her 91st birthday is not going to prove something of an anti-climax. Perhaps *Spitting Image* could be invited to compile a gala tribute.

On BBC 1, *Everyman's Who Killed Vincent Chin?* was a thriller worthy of the current true-murder mini-series going out on the same channel in midweek. It is known who killed Vincent Chin, and when and where; it was 1982, in Detroit, and the killer was a local car worker called Ron Ebens, who at first got the charge busted down to one of manslaughter.

The question is why he did it. Chin was on a stag-night celebration in a bar when he got into a fight with Ebens. But this was at a time when Detroit was inflamed with hatred against the Japanese, who were perceived by their imports to have destroyed the local car industry. Chin, though in fact Chinese, was mistaken for Ebens for Japanese.

Slowly but surely, the Asian community in Detroit came to believe that this killing seemed racially motivated and got the case reopened. In the memorable language of the American judicial system, Ebens was then charged with having violated Chin's civil rights by clubbing him to death with a baseball bat. For *Everyman*,

everyone talked: the families, the accused, the judge, the jury. Since the arrival of *LA Law*, nobody in the American judicial system ever refuses to open up to a camera.

The case was twice retried; Ebens, facing a murder charge, was then taken to a new court in Cincinnati, far from the racially inflamed tensions of Detroit. There, he was found not guilty, and therefore has not had to serve a day in prison, despite his admission of the killing.

It would seem that in Detroit a person can now legally be clubbed to death with a baseball bat and yet not have had his civil rights in any way violated, especially if his appearance offends his assailant. Only, as they say, in America: What would the survival odds be for a Detroit car worker in a Chinese nightclub?

Those whose idea of television excitement and drama is the sight of Kate Adie purchasing pottery will not have been disappointed by the start of *The Great Picture Chase*. This temporarily fills the *Antiques Roadshow* slot on BBC 1 by inviting celebrities to buy items that will doubtless be proudly offered to the *Roadshow* experts for valuation and disappointment in due course.

Blithely ignoring the title, Adie took her £500 of the licence fee money and invested it in a pot, which after considerable searching through the kilns of Great Britain she eventually located in the souvenir shop of the Victoria and Albert Museum.

There is a suggestion from the Independent Producers Association that the BBC is not living up to its promise of providing 25 per cent of its air time for independent productions from other sources. If the freelance videos made for a new series of *White Noise* on BBC 2 on Saturday were anything to go by, the only real fear is that the BBC will live up to that promise. The video art on view here included a man trying to turn a television set inside-out, perhaps as a consequence of having seen another man trying to play a tune on skyscrapers.

SHERIDAN MORLEY

ENGLISH NATIONAL Ballet

40TH ANNIVERSARY SUMMER SEASON

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REVIEWS

Enjoyably unreal parade

Cardboard villains, maidens and heroes? A scene from Act II of the Bolshoi Opera's production of *Mlada*

OPERA

Mlada
SEC, Glasgow

ALL the resources of Moscow's Bolshoi Opera were on colourful display to open its first visit to Britain, as a highlight of Glasgow's year as European City of Culture. Rimsky-Korsakov designated his *Mlada* a "grand opera-ballet", a heady mix of as much dancing as singing, in a stage spectacle of storybook fantasy and orchestral splendour, now exactly a century old.

Its performance lived to the limit the resources of the Scottish Exhibition and Conference Centre on Clydebank, where Hall No 4 was transformed into the ambience of an opera house, seating some 3,000 people on plastic shells of minimal comfort raised on scaffolding. They faced a proscenium stage of wide letter-box shape, with painted decor on

either side to simulate the grandeur of an old-style auditorium with its loges.

To project over such a vast space required some electronic enhancement for the principals and also, it seemed, for the orchestra. This was not too obtrusive, but even with prodigies of lighting and stagecraft managed by the technical crew, the distance from a seat less than halfway back destroyed any sense of stage depth and flattened out the images like a television screen.

Not that *Mlada* has any character in depth to show. Rather does it invite a regression to childlike wonder at the cardboard villains, maidens and heroes of folk legend, as they come and go from beyond the grave.

The title role is a wraith danced by a ballerina, disrupting her betrothed's magically induced love for Voislava, the nasty princess who murdered her. Along the way to ultimate reunion among

the "gods of goodness" occur *tableaux vivants* of folk games, a witches' sabbath, romantic spirit ballets, processions and apparitions, for which Rimsky composed some of his most beguiling music.

Here, for instance, could be heard the origins of Stravinsky's *Firebird* in the textures of Ravel's *Daphnis and Chloe*, woven by the conducting of Aleksander Lazarev into musical brocade. It lacked the scintillating detail and musical pungency of the London Symphony Orchestra's semi-staged performance at the Barbican last year, but gained immeasurably from the visual element.

Boris Pokrovsky's production, however, staged in Moscow a couple of seasons ago and chosen to represent the "new" Bolshoi style, did the work no great service by adding a sophisticated layer of doll-figures, some replicating the central characters, some brandished, gruesomely imprinted, sang

Voislava, as she did for the LSO, with an agile, sometimes shrill, soprano of expressive character. It was a pleasure to hear again the opulent mezzo of Elena Zarembo after her success in the Covent Garden *Prince Igor*, albeit here in a role (Larion) that made little of her stage presence. Galina Borisova caricatured a diverting goddess of evil, but it was the tone and musical phrasing of the tenor Oleg Kulko as the hero, Yaromir, that was most successful.

Excellent chorus singing added greatly to the enjoyment, as did the dancing in both folk and ballet styles, with Nadezhda Gracheva notably appealing as Mlada. The choreographer, Andrey Petrov indulged in some pastiche Petipa for his ballet of the Shades in the picturesque Act III. It was much to be regretted that principal dancers in this and other scenes went uncredited by name, when even the most minor singers and three orchestra soloists were listed.

NOEL GOODWIN

DANCE

Romeo and Juliet
Covent Garden

ANY company could have been proud of the couples who danced the title roles in Kenneth MacMillan's most popular production, closing the Royal Ballet's Covent Garden season on Saturday.

Lesley Collier, who danced Juliet in the evening, has developed her performance over the years and plays it with a detailed grasp of character, sparked into special liveliness last week by a

new partner. Laurent Hilaire brings to Romeo the commitment and ardour shown in all his roles and, like Collier, has not only exceptional skill and strength, but a gift for responding to the flow and passion of the music.

Consequently, they go well together and heighten each other's effect. The same is true of the young cast who took the leads at the matinee. Dana Fournas is only just completing her second year with the Royal Ballet but already she has created two leading roles at Covent Garden (one of them as a student). Two qualities distinguish her Juliet, both of them reminiscent of one of the role's

exemplars, Lynn Seymour. The more obvious similarity is in the way she gives herself wholeheartedly and convincingly to the drama. This was apparent not only in the early scenes, where her youthfulness would be expected to help, but peculiarly at the end. This Juliet seemed to want positively to consummate Romeo when she hugged and kissed him on their awakening together, and the desolation, even anger, in the following scene with her parents and Paris was immensely touching.

The other quality which Fournas (and her Romeo, Stuart Cassidy) share with Seymour is that, rather than the long, stretched line generally admired in ballet, they offer a rounded, three-dimensional effect: their arabesques and attitudes could surely be equally enjoyed from any viewpoint, like a sculpture. After so many virtuosic extensions, this makes a welcome change.

Anthony Dowell, in his move to heavier roles, now plays Tybalt, whom he shows as drunk with anger. An interesting concept, but he must beware of excess or his staggering, reeling and grimacing could possibly topple over into unintended comedy.

JOHN PERCTVAL

PROMS

Hilliard Ensemble
BBCSO/Davis
Albert Hall

A WELL made concert should have its own internal logic, and logic is not always derived from ancient formulae. When he ran the Proms, Sir William Glock made a speciality of "little and large" programming, such as a solo sonata prefacing a grand symphony. Or he would pull together stylistic opposites, making a tandem that looked incongruous on paper, yet set up strong resonances across the centuries in performance.

No one before or since has matched Glock's audacity, and perhaps Glock was lucky to have the adventurous spirit of the 1960s working for him. Occasionally, though, sparks of programming genius illuminate the concert scene. One such was a late-night Prom by the male-voiced Hilliard Ensemble. It brought together two pieces separated in their composition by more than 400 years, and proved them to be infused with a near identical spirit.

Tallis's *Lamentations* of *Jeremiah* was the most famous — and possibly the greatest — of a group of covert sacred choral works composed by Catholics in Elizabethan (Protestant) England. The

risk of death at the stake for writing these works, the secrecy in which they must have been performed, the use of Old Testament texts (particularly those relating to the Israelites' exile in Babylon) as a coded reference for the persecution of Catholics, and the devising of musical symbols as metaphors for suffering and penitence: all this serves to cloak these pieces in a mysterious aura, even before the music's haunting beauty is taken into account.

Tallis structures the *Lamentations* with an impeccable sense of drama, so that they grow in intensity towards the "Jerusalem" refrain which pierces through, like a dagger to the heart. His contrapuntal "points" — the passages where individual voices pile in on the same text, one imitating another — are handled with a masterly sense of vocal texture. Anyone who has experienced Tallis's 40-part motet *Spem in alium* in a live performance will understand how subtly he manipulates voices to gain contrasts of register and density; his deployment of just five voices in the *Lamentations* is no less extraordinary.

His real trademark, however — though it is a characteristic of many English 16th-century composers — is his love of dissonance, especially the device known to generations of music students as "false relations". These are the

robust clashes caused in passing by inner parts that follow their own natural contours, rather than conforming to the overall harmony.

It is too fanciful to see this musical "live and let live" policy as another kind of political metaphor. For if magnificent music can be created without all the voices conforming to a single dominant chord, cannot a country allow a similar diversity of opinion?

The Hilliard Ensemble gave a superbly sinuous and lean-toned performance of the Tallis, and ten minutes later was back with the instruments and auxiliary voices of Western Wind for the same story again, only rewritten in 1989. For this was a *Miserere* for the Estonian composer Arvo Pärt: another work of intense mysticism which seems to express the suffering of a believer (or perhaps a whole country of believers) under a modern-day Babylon. Using an small instrumental group of wind, guitars, organ and percussion, and weaving in the "Dies irae" text in places, Pärt creates another of his unique exercises in silence, broken by music of minimal notes and maximum enunciation.

As with Tallis, Pärt uses dissonance and varied vocal textures to superb effect. There is one huge outburst for all forces, including bells, and another instrumental interlude which sounds like a Bach

gigue accompanied delightfully by a tambourine. But elsewhere the writing is characteristically austere, the phrases repeated like *mantras*, the entire atmosphere redolent of something other than our flawed and grimy world.

All last week at the Albert Hall, orchestras, conductors and soloists have laboured admirably to produce music for packed houses in temperatures which could roast a chicken. On Saturday night, with the perspiration visibly pouring off the BBC Symphony Orchestra and Andrew Davis's programme fittingly opened with Nielsen's overture *Helios* — a tuneless orchestral "hymn" to the blazing Mediterranean sun. The work's brief but furious fugue sorely tested the BBC strings, but in Sibelius's Second Symphony all forces stuck to the task with spirit and finesse. The mercurial scherzo was especially exciting, though Davis took a too stolid view of the finale.

Earlier, the pianist Stephen Hough was nimble enough but too placidly tempered to do Rachmaninov's Third Piano Concerto full justice: the pianist's first entry in the slow movement should be a great cry of anguish, disrupting the strings' conventional dreaminess like a distraught intruder crashing into a dinner party. Hough knocked politely on the door.

RICHARD MORRISON

NEW RELEASES

KILL ME AGAIN (18)

Low-key but pointed thriller, with James Whalley-Raines as a small-time crook who grabs some Mafia cash and hires a detective to hunt him down to take his murder.

Director: John Dahl
Cannon: Haymarket (071-839 1527)

SPACED INVADERS (PG)

The predictable adventures of little green Martians who land on Earth with a mission. Understanding humor, including a large, Douglas Barr, Royal Dano.

Cannon: Haymarket (071-839 1527)

WILD ORCHID (18)

Sex drama set in Brazil, with Melody Pourbaie as a perversely charming, Jacqueline Bisset as his glibly old flame, and Cane Cane as the manipulative innocent. Depicted by Zaimen Kiri.

Primo: Channel 4 (071-437 8181) Cannon: (071-839 1527)

MEN DON'T LEAVE (15)

Amical tale of a woman (Jessica Lange) who is sexually abused by her husband (Michael Douglas). Directed by David Mamet.

Primo: Channel 4 (071-437 8181) Cannon: (071-839 1527)

BACK TO THE FUTURE PART II (PG)

A story of a boy who travels back in time to the year 1955, and meets his parents as teenagers. Directed by Robert Zemeckis.

Primo: Channel 4 (071-437 8181) Cannon: (071-839 1527)

INTERCOMING (18)

Polish political comedy about a man who is forced to live in a communist country. Directed by Krzysztof Zanussi.

Primo: Channel 4 (071-437 8181) Cannon: (071-839 1527)

KAMIKAZE HEARTS (18)

American independent film, loosely based on the life of a man who is a kamikaze pilot. Directed by John Dahl.

Primo: Channel 4 (071-437 8181) Cannon: (071-839 1527)

BLIND FURY (18)

Thriller about a man who is blinded and then becomes a violent criminal. Directed by John Dahl.

Primo: Channel 4 (071-437 8181) Cannon: (071-839 1527)

ABANDON PERSON (18)

A comedy about a man who is abandoned by his wife. Directed by John Dahl.

Primo: Channel 4 (071-437 8181) Cannon: (071-839 1527)

BURN THIS (18)

A comedy about a man who is burned. Directed by John Dahl.

Primo: Channel 4 (071-437 8181) Cannon: (071-839 1527)

EARTHLY (18)

A comedy about a man who is earthly. Directed by John Dahl.

Primo: Channel 4 (071-437 8181) Cannon: (071-839 1527)

GASPARINO (18)

A comedy about a man who is Gasparino. Directed by John Dahl.

Primo: Channel 4 (071-437 8181) Cannon: (071-839 1527)

HIDDEN LAUGHTER (18)

A comedy about a man who is hidden laughter. Directed by John Dahl.

Primo: Channel 4 (071-437 8181) Cannon: (071-839 1527)

HENRY H (18)

A comedy about a man who is Henry H. Directed by John Dahl.

Primo: Channel 4 (071-437 8181) Cannon: (071-839 1527)

MUCHADO ABOUT NOTHING (18)

A comedy about a man who is Muchado about nothing. Directed by John Dahl.

Primo: Channel 4 (071-437 8181) Cannon: (071-839 1527)

REBORN (18)

A comedy about a man who is reborn. Directed by John Dahl.

Primo: Channel 4 (071-437 8181) Cannon: (071-839 1527)

RETURN TO THE FORBIDDEN (18)

A comedy about a man who is return to the forbidden. Directed by John Dahl.

Primo: Channel 4 (071-437 8181) Cannon: (071-839 1527)

RICHARD H (18)

A comedy about a man who is Richard H. Directed by John Dahl.

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A comedy about a man who is leave taking. Directed by John Dahl.

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CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated) on release across the country.

CRIMES AND MISDEMEANORS (15)

Crime and misdeemeanors. Directed by John Dahl.

CRY-BABY (12)

A comedy about a man who is cry-baby. Directed by John Dahl.

DICK TRACY (PG)

A comedy about a man who is Dick Tracy. Directed by John Dahl.

GRIFFIN'S 12: THE NEW BATCH (12)

A comedy about a man who is Griffin's 12: The New Batch. Directed by John Dahl.

THE FUTURE PART II (PG)

A comedy about a man who is the future part II. Directed by John Dahl.

INTERCOMING (18)

A comedy about a man who is intercoming. Directed by John Dahl.

KAMIKAZE HEARTS (18)

A comedy about a man who is kamikaze hearts. Directed by John Dahl.

BLIND FURY (18)

A comedy about a man who is blind fury. Directed by John Dahl.

ABANDON PERSON (18)

A comedy about a man who is abandon person. Directed by John Dahl.

BURN THIS (18)

A comedy about a man who is burn this. Directed by John Dahl.

EARTHLY (18)

A comedy about a man who is earthly. Directed by John Dahl.

GASPARINO (18)

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Primo: Channel 4 (071-437 8181) Cannon: (071-839 1527)

MY LEFT FOOT (15): The Chirley Brown story, with a touching performance by Chirley Brown. Directed by Chirley Brown.

PIERROT LE FOU (18): A comedy about a man who is Pierrot le fou. Directed by John Dahl.

PRETTY WOMAN (15): A comedy about a man who is pretty woman. Directed by John Dahl.

REUNION (12): A comedy about a man who is reunion. Directed by John Dahl.

TALE OF SPRINGTIME (15): A comedy about a man who is tale of springtime. Directed by John Dahl.

THE ME UP THE ME DOWP (18): A comedy about a man who is the me up the me dowp. Directed by John Dahl.

TOTAL RECALL (18): A comedy about a man who is total recall. Directed by John Dahl.

THE THREE SISTERS (18): A comedy about a man who is the three sisters. Directed by John Dahl.

THE VANISHING (18): A comedy about a man who is the vanishing. Directed by John Dahl.

THE WINDMILL (18): A comedy about a man who is the windmill. Directed by John Dahl.

THE YOUNG MAN (18): A comedy about a man who is the young man. Directed by John Dahl.

THE ZEPHYRUS (18): A comedy about a man who is the zephyrus. Directed by John Dahl.

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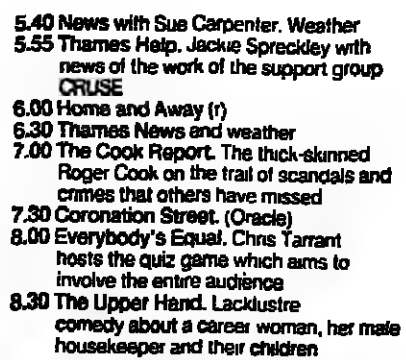
THE ZEPHY

TELEVISION & RADIO

COMPILED BY PETER DEAR AND MERLE ADAM
TELEVISION CHOICE PETER WAYMARK/RADIO CHOICE PETER DAVALE

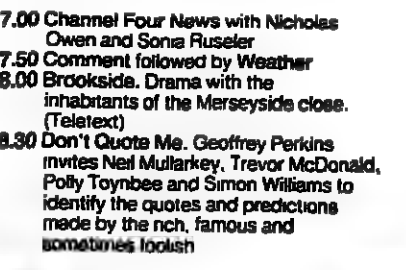
TV LONDON

6.00 TV-am
9.25 He-Man and the Masters of the Universe (r) 9.50 Thames News and weather 9.55 Inspector Gadget (r) 10.25 Vicky the Viking 10.50 News headlines
10.55 Children of the Dog Star. Adventure series about a 12-year-old girl who is a keen astronomer. (Crane) 11.25 Just for the Record includes Dorothy Ditch, the only female magician to have pulled off the "inverted bullet catch".
11.55 The Adventures of Tim Tm (r) 12.05 Playbox. Learning series for the under-fives (r) 12.25 Home and Away 12.55 Thames News and weather
1.00 News at One with Sue Carpenter. Weather
1.20 Santa Barbara. Glossy California soap 1.50 A Country Practice
2.20 Luke Was There. When he is abandoned by his father and stepfather, Luke loses his trust in adults. But then a persuasive black character called Luke appears on the scene.
3.15 News headlines 3.20 Thames News and weather 3.25 Families. Soap following the fortunes of two families in England and Australia
3.55 Bangers and Mash (r) (r) 4.00 The Tank Engine and Friends (r) 4.15 The Prince of Wales 4.40 Children's Ward. Drama serial. (Crane)
5.10 Sporting Triangles. Sports quiz presented by Andy Craig



Family viewing: Paul McCartney (5.00pm)

5.40 News with Sue Carpenter. Weather
5.55 Thames Help. Jackie Spradley with news of the work of the support group CRUSE
6.00 Home and Away (r)
6.30 Thames News and weather
7.00 The Cook Report. The thick-skinned Roger Cook on the trail of scandals and crimes that others have missed
7.30 Coronation Street. (Crane)
8.00 Everybody's Equal. Chris Tarrant hosts the quiz game which aims to involve the entire audience
8.30 The Upper Hand. Lacklustre comedy about a career woman, her male housekeeper and their children
9.00 News at Ten with Alastair Burnet Owen and Some Fussier
9.30 News at Ten 10.30 Thames News and weather
10.35 News at Ten 10.35 News at Ten continued
1.00 Sportsweek Extra includes highlights of the Swedish Open golf.
2.00 Film: The Island of Dr. Moreau (1977). Burt Lancaster and Michael York in a latter-day version of an old Charles Laughton vehicle about shipwrecked sailors cast ashore on a Pacific island where a mad scientist comes out bizarre experiments on animals. Loved but insufficiently chilling, directed by Don Taylor.
4.00 60 Minutes. Celebrated American series featuring in-depth investigations and interviews. This week: a look at the use of the atom bomb against the Chinese Communists, only to be pulled back by President Eisenhower. A collaboration between the Australian Broadcasting Corporation and KCET of Los Angeles. *Power in the Pacific* has a proper critical approach to its theme and a strong cast of talking heads (Clifford, Rosalyn, Bell, Galbraith and Kissinger) to back it up.
10.00 A Town Like Alice. Episode four of the six-part dramatisation of Nevil Shute's novel about a second world war romance. Starring Helen Morse and Bryan Brown (r)
10.55 Film: The Idolmaker (1980) starring Ray Sharkey, Peter Gallagher and Paul Land. A fictionalised biopic of the rock star maker of the 1950s Bob Marley, who guided the careers of Frankie Avalon and Fabian. Directed by Taylor Hackford
1.10am Film: Madmen in Uniform (1931, b/w).
 ● Leontine Sagan's film earned notoriety and a permanent place in cinema history, as one of the first treatments of lesbian love, although what appears on the screen amounts to little more than a schoolgirl crush. *Madmen in Uniform* is set in a boarding school for the daughters of Prussian officers before the first world war. The school is run like a prison. The girls are fiercely regimented, not allowed books and kept short of food. "Through discipline and hunger we shall be great again!" proclaims the dragon of a headmistress. Against this background there develops the friendship between an awkward new pupil and an attractive teacher which becomes a direct challenge to the system. The relationship is handled with sympathy and sensitivity while the nightmarish ambience of the school is evoked through expressionist techniques of heavy shadows and disturbing camera angles. Ends at 2.45



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By KERRY GILL

Sore head, page 5



BY BRIAN MACARTHUR

The ASBoF levies £1 per £1,000 of display advertising

Blom-Cooper: last-ditch fight for Press Council



It said that if the press failed to set up the PCC and to finance it properly, it should

The Press Council: 36th annual report (1 Salisbury Square, London EC4Y 8AE; £6 plus 90p p&p)

From VUITHA YAPA IN COLOMBO

Kattankudy, inhabited by about 50,000 muslims, lies between two Tamil villages, Araipattai and Navatkuda.

The marines were authorised to use any means

Continued from page 1

The purpose of the operation was to "safeguard lives" by reducing the embassy to a skeleton staff and providing security for those that remained behind. The marines would remain "as long as necessary to ensure the safety of US citizens in that country". A further 2,100 Marines remained on the warships.

**The solution of
Saturday's Prize
Puzzle No 18,364 will
appear next Saturday.
The 5 winners will
receive a Duofold
fountain pen supplied
by Parker**

17 Reminiscent of English
grammarians' case (9).
18 In principle, soldiers qualify for
housing (8).
20 Invested, and owed in con-
sequence (6).
21 Book for husband (7).
22 The underworld can change to
be sure (6).
24 One getting caught up in father's
problem (5).
26 A minor prize (5).

By Philip Howard

c. A naval tactic
MUSKELLUNGE
a. A fish
b. A musket bayonet
c. The female mask ox
SABURRA
a. A native-born Israeli
b. A tall cactus
c. A granular deposit
JIZZ
a. A minor djinn
b. A gin fizz
c. A characteristic

London & SE traffic, roadworks	
C. London (within N & S Circles).....	731
M-ways/roads M4-M1	732
M-ways/roads M1-Dartford T.	733
M-ways/roads Dartford T.-M23 T4 ..	734
M-ways/roads M23-M4	735
M25 London Orbital only	736
National traffic and roadworks	
National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Angles	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
North Ireland	745
AA Roadwatch is charged at £6 per	

ABROAD

Saturday's figures

bars = 29.53 in.

9. East Sussex, 14.71

CLASSIC

Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 18C
6 pm to 6 am, 11C (52F). Rain: 24hr
01 in. Sun: 24 hr to 6 pm, 6.5 hr.

AROUND BRITAIN

These are Saturday's figures

Greater London.....	701*
Kent,Surrey,Sussex.....	702*
Dorset,Hants & IOW.....	703*

Central Midlands	711*
East Midlands	712*
Leics & Humberside	713*
Durford & Rovers	714*

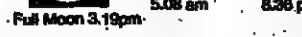
W Central Scotland.....	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders.....	722
E Central Scotland.....	723
Grampian & E Highlands.....	724

Weathercall is charged at 5p for 8 seconds (peak and standard) 5p for 12 seconds (off peak).
*Includes nolan count.



London 8.41 pm to 5.33 am

Penance 6.58 pm to 6.59 am



Tide in metres: 1m-5.2806ft. Times are BST

NOON TODAY



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BUSINESS

MONDAY AUGUST 6 1990

Executive Editor
David Brewerton

Britain bans oil imports from Kuwait and Iraq

By GEORGE SIVELL IN LONDON AND PHILIP ROBINSON IN LOS ANGELES

BRITAIN banned imports of Kuwaiti and Iraqi crude oil and petrol from midnight last night following a European Community decision on Saturday to embargo oil from the two countries. America and Japan have joined the EC in the embargo.

The trade department said the only exceptions would be if the oil was shipped before the ban took effect or if a shipment was covered by a contract entered before the deadline. Import licences will be needed in these cases.

But Britain takes only 34,000 barrels a day from Iraq, 3.4 per cent of production and worth only about £90 million last year. It takes only 4,000 barrels a day from Kuwait, worth just £16 million and a mere 0.4 per cent of its production.

Japan will be much more severely affected by the embargo and may face a serious oil shortage and sharply higher import bills if the ban lasts more than a few months.

Japan imports 99 per cent of

its oil and has just 142 days of reserves. But Japan said the ban would stay until Iraq withdraws its troops from Kuwait and returns the emir to power. Iraq and Kuwait supplied about 12 per cent of Japan's oil in the first six months of 1990, a ministry of international trade and industry official said.

A successful world blockade of Kuwait and Iraq oil would take about 4.5 million barrels of production a day off the world market, or about 8 per cent of total world supply. America, the EC and Japan together buy 1.7 million barrels a day of Iraq's 2.7 million a day exports.

Oil analysts estimate the embargo will raise the \$23-\$24 price of a barrel that has prevailed since Iraq invaded Kuwait last Thursday, the highest price for North Sea Brent since January 1986 when Opec overproduction flooded world markets.

Traders fear Iraq may yet invade the Saudi Arabian oilfields and think shortages

likely if the west succeeds in overthrowing Iraqi and Kuwaiti supply. Even if oil stays at \$24 a barrel, petrol prices are likely to rise by 8p a gallon this week. Some traders believe oil could reach \$30 a barrel by the end of the week.

However, it is estimated that spare Gulf oil production capacity of about 3.5 million barrels a day, notably from Saudi Arabia, is available to make good the shortfall in the event of a prolonged embargo against Iraq and Kuwait.

But Geoff Pyne, an energy economist with UBS Phillips and Drew, the finance house, said the latest embargoes will still allow some Iraqi oil to reach Brazil, India, South Africa and East Europe. Middlemen may also make money by moving Iraqi oil round the system, filling gaps as western multinationals shop elsewhere.

But Iraq, relying on oil for 90 per cent of export earnings, would be pinched, if slowly, and may have to discount or barter. Mr Pyne said few of

Kuwait's 1.5 million barrels may reach markets because the Iraqi-backed government's title to it may be disputed by the exiled emir. "Shippers would risk costly lawsuits," he said.

The west retains the option of an outright blockade that would either shut the pipelines or send tankers to stop tankers using their Mediterranean and Red Sea outlets. Warships might also patrol the exit of the Gulf.

Steve Turner, of Smith New Court, the broker, said: "Leaky boycotts might not be so effective as a blockade but the risk of damage to the world economy is less. You may still have prices in the middle \$20 range."

Apart from Japanese oil trading houses, developing countries such as Zimbabwe and Pakistan were purchasing crude oil and refined oil products from Kuwait.

London stock market dealers face the old enemy of stagflation this morning when they return to work. Analysts

believe that with oil prices likely to settle in the region of \$25 a barrel in the event of a prolonged Kuwait-Iraq embargo, there is an increased risk of the British economy stagnating in a high-inflation, low-growth environment.

In reaction to Wall Street gyrations on Friday on fears that the American economy is weaker and closer to recession than previously thought, it is expected that London shares will open lower today, possibly by 20 to 40 points. Any escalation of problems in the Middle East would increase the fall, say analysts.

Prices of blue chips fell by 7.57 per cent on the Tel Aviv stock exchange yesterday, the biggest one-day fall in seven years, on Middle East fears after the invasion, traders said.

Market strategists point out that a \$25 barrel sustained for the rest of this year will remove about 0.5 per cent from growth in the developed world next year and add another 1 per cent to inflation over the next year.

American analysts fear the Middle East crisis could tip America into recession and add at least 1 full percentage point to inflation pushing it over 5 per cent.

Irwin Kellner, chief economist at Manufacturers Hanover Bank, is among a number of economists who say the sharp rise in fuel prices will drive up industry's costs, drain consumer spending from other products and send America into a period of stagflation.

Within 24 hours of the Iraqi invasion, fuel prices at American filling stations rose between 4 and 14 cents. Oil companies, including Shell, where some dealers raised the price by 7 cents, and BP, which lifted its price to dealers by 4 cents a gallon, were accused of profiteering.

The Soviet Union, which has denounced Iraq, its long-standing ally, for invading Kuwait, stands to profit by \$750 million this year from the invasion, *Kommersant*, the independent business weekly, said. It said experts estimate Moscow's net oil export earnings would rise by that amount if prices stay at current levels for the rest of 1990.

The Soviet Union, the world's biggest oil producer, is desperately short of foreign currency and relies heavily on its crude exports. These totalled 127 million tonnes last year, earning \$22.5 billion.

Building societies outstrip the banks

By NEIL BENNETT
BANKING CORRESPONDENT

BUILDING societies continue to outstrip banks in profitability and efficiency, according to a survey by UBS Phillips & Drew, the broker.

Cheltenham and Gloucester, the seventh largest society, has replaced the Abbey National as the best performer.

The survey also confirms that two of the top 15 societies, the Alliance and Leicester and the National Provincial, are considering a stock market float following Abbey's lead last year. Alliance has retained J P Morgan as advisers. Morgan is also working on NatPro's conversion plans.

Cheltenham's return on capital of 36.4 per cent last year was more than six points above Lloyds, the best of the banks.

Only two of the banks, Abbey and Bank of Scotland, had lower costs than Nationwide Anglia, the least efficient of the societies.

Cheltenham was top of the societies' performance table after being second in the previous two years to Abbey National, which was removed from the table after its float. The table is drawn up from a series of 12 profitability, market share and capital strength ratios.

Dr John Wigglesworth, who prepared the report, attributes Cheltenham's success to its lack of diversification. The society has only 19 estate agents, has not launched a cheque account, credit cards, or cash-dispensing machines and unsecured loans are provided only from Lloyds Bowmaker.

"This concentration allows it to offer very competitive rates to both savers and mortgage borrowers," said Dr Wigglesworth.

During 1989, Cheltenham increased its share of total mortgage lending from 2.08 to 2.27 per cent and launched a high interest postal account to boost deposits.

The worst society of the 15 was Birmingham Midshires, down from 12th last year. It was hit by a £2.4 million loss from its estate agency chain and diversification into agency lending and insurance broking.

Estate agency and insurance broking also depressed Northern Rock which fell six places to 13th. Britannia, 14th two years ago, climbed six places to fifth. Abbey National would have fallen from first to third if it had still been included.

Crude oil: The embargo's impact

Total Middle East crude oil exports 1989



Source: BP statistical review of world energy

Millions in debts now 'at risk'

By OUR CITY STAFF

AMERICA is expected to press for the oil boycott to be extended worldwide at a United Nations Security Council meeting today. The pressure came as it was revealed that Britain has hundreds of millions of pounds in debts outstanding from Iraq, which could now be at risk.

Turkey and Saudi Arabia have already been approached by America for co-operation in blocking the Iraqi pipelines across their countries.

Officials at the trade department said that Saturday's European Community decisions in Rome did not mean

a total ban on British trade with Iraq. Such comprehensive sanctions would operate only if agreed in a United Nations mandatory resolution. They pointed out that Britain exports only non-combatant arms to Iraq. An arms embargo was imposed some years ago on both sides during the war between Iran and Iraq.

But Britain stands to lose from a comprehensive trade embargo against Iraq. British exports to the country last year totalled £450 million against £55 million imports.

The officials said Iraq, al-

ready a leading international debtor, owes large sums on British orders and may now be tempted to default. Export business is guaranteed by the government's Export Credit Guarantee Department.

Officials in Whitehall do not accept that Iraq has consolidated its grip on Kuwait, and that little can be done at least for the time being.

Since 1983 the ECGD has granted medium- and long-term cover for trade with Iraq of about £1.4 billion. The cover lasts for at least two years. Banks will only finance

trade with countries such as Iraq if the loans are insured by the ECGD. Last month the ECGD stopped covering trade with Iraq because of payments problems and the Iraq economic crisis.

Observers feel the high-profile western campaign, including the implied threat of military action, will discourage President Saddam Hussein from any attack on oil-rich Saudi Arabia, bringing more gloom for western economies.

Economic View, page 23
Times, page 23

Czechs split on industry sales

CZECHOSLOVAKIA, struggling towards democracy, is split over how to privatise its industries and open its markets to foreign investment. The privatisation debate centres on the voucher system, intended to prevent foreigners buying up companies cheaply, but without precedent in the west.

Wolfgang Minichau, European Business Correspondent, spoke to two ministers in Prague.

Czech reform, page 23

THE POUND

US dollar (+0.0215)
W German mark
2.9557 (-0.0036)
Exchange index
94.2 (+0.3)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share
1793.4 (-48.7)
FT-SE 100
284.6 (-45.5)
New York Dow Jones
2809.65 (-88.87)
Tokyo Nikkei Ave
29515.76 (-1347.72)

TOURIST RATES

	Bank	Bank
	Buy	Sell
Australia	2.46	2.50
Belgium	63.70	65.70
Canada	2.25	2.08
Denmark	11.51	11.11
France	11.28	6.88
Germany	10.34	9.74
Greece	3.02	2.80
Italy	287	281
Japan	14.90	14.00
Netherlands	1.58	1.58
Spain	2250	2120
Sweden	291	275
Switzerland	3.45	3.25
USA	11.95	11.25
Portugal	270	255
South Africa	3.60	3.50
Spain	188.50	177.50
Sweden	11.22	10.92
Switzerland	2.63	2.47
Turkey	5020	4850
USA	1.95	1.85
Venezuela	25.00	24.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as quoted by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques.
Retail Price Index: 128.7 (June)

Kay chief to be paid £5m in non-competition pact

By GILLIAN BOWDITCH

RATNERS, the jewellery group, has agreed to pay £5 million to Anthony van Ekris, chairman and chief executive of Kay Jewellers in return for an assurance that he will not compete with Ratners or Kay's for the next ten years.

Ratners, whose chairman and chief executive, Gerald Ratner, has offered £234 million for Kay, will pay Mr van Ekris £83,333 a month for the next five years, a total of £5 million, as part of a non-competition agreement.

Mr van Ekris has agreed not to solicit Kay's employees or suppliers, or own, manage, operate, control or be employed by any retail jewellery business for the next ten years.

He will be employed as a consultant to Ratners for five years following the merger. He owns 8 per cent of Kay Jeweller's ordinary shares and

will receive £16.8 million for his shares as a result of Ratners' offer of \$17 a share.

Holders of Kay's subordinated notes, or junk bonds, have to decide by today whether to accept Ratners' offer of 75 cents in the dollar for them.

Ratners has indicated that it



Ratner: offer worth £234m

may pay up to 85 cents in the dollar, but bondholders are seeking the full value of their bonds.

They are angry that shareholders, including the Kay management team, which owns about 35 per cent of the shares, have been offered a 70 per cent premium on their shares' value while they have been offered a 25 per cent discount on the value of their bonds.

If enough bondholders do not accept the Ratner offer, Ratner may walk away from the deal.

The offer for Kay is conditional on 51 per cent of the bondholders accepting the current offer. But Ratners has to pay Kay \$10 million if the offer is unsuccessful and the bondholders are therefore betting on Ratners increasing its offer to them.

Greenery puts Disney all at sea

From PHILIP ROBINSON, LOS ANGELES

YOU have seen Disneyland and Disney World - now it is Disney Sea. This is a \$2 billion Walt Disney plan to turn Mickey Mouse amphibious and build a massive sea and hotel development round the Queen Mary liner and the "Spruce Goose", Howard Hughes' legendary seaplane, in the Californian port of Long Beach.

But the plan has received a cool reception from some of the 50 neighbourhood leaders which must approve the project.

The arrival of Disney, the world's largest and most successful theme park operator would once have been welcomed with unanimous enthusiasm for the prosperity it created. American communities have recently grown more critical of Disney and have become frustrated with the tourist and traffic problems created by its theme parks.

Disney directors, heirs of the wholesome family image which is guarded with such zeal - Disney has a reputation for going to law over anything that it feels denigrates the image of its characters - have had a series of embarrassing setbacks recently.

Two weeks ago, it was ordered to pay a record \$550,000 in fines for violating 38 toxic waste laws. The action was brought by the Environmental Protection Agency, which alleged Disneyland's waste contractor removed 14,000 gallons of paint thinner, solvents and other toxic waste from its Disneyland theme park in Los Angeles, to dumps in Wyoming and Utah not permitted to handle the waste.

Disney says it was not aware its contractor was handling the waste improperly and has filed a claim against the company. Three months ago, Disney created the position of vice-president of environmental policy after it was fined \$10,000 and ordered to pay a further

\$10,000 to a bird charity having admitted violating the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. The penalties arose from the way Disney handled vultures that invaded its 11-acre zoological site on Discovery Island at the Florida Disney World.

Disney has also run into trouble with leaders of Florida local authorities who claimed it turned its back on the traffic jams and housing shortages that its growth helped to create.

Long Beach leaders have already pledged there will be no public money for new roads and that the 10,000 jobs the project will create ought to be filled locally. Ms Karen Pitcher, a local councillor, said: "Why should we want to give money to a company that has more money than they know what to do with?"

In the face of mounting opposition, Disney plans a series of meetings with the community over the next month, but is adamant there will be no project unless the city shares the cost.



Cool spot: Bruce Wright of Carrier Distribution

Air-conditioning sales match temperature rise

SWELTERING Britons have brought a sales and rental boom to air conditioning companies, even giving a lift to the sluggish household sector, writes Derek Harris, Industrial Editor.

Stocks of portable air-conditioners have fallen rapidly at Carrier Distribution, the British arm of the American company now part of United Technologies Corporation, whose founder pioneered air conditioning.

Carrier, which has a net-

work of dealers round the country, had about 1,000 portable machines in stock at the start of last week, but by the weekend only 200 were left. It is seeking extra supplies from its Italian factory.

Bruce Wright, marketing director of Carrier, said: "People are going bananas. Provided we can get the machines, sales into the trade should be 300 per cent up this year. The longer the hot weather continues the greater will be the effect."

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In the course of last summer a group of people on an organised walk near Causton in Nottinghamshire stumbled across signs of buried treasure. The landowner subsequently dug up a hoard of more than 1,500 gold and silver coins which had been hidden during the Civil War in about 1640.

Details of the £15,331 find are contained in the Treasury Trove Reviewing Committee's annual report presented to the Chancellor of the Exchequer last week. John Major must be wondering whether the rise in the oil price following the invasion of Kuwait will turn out to be his own treasure trove or whether on the contrary it is going to prove the skeleton in the electoral cupboard.

The answer depends partly on how high the oil price rises and partly on the exchange rate. On the face of it Saddam Hussein has all the cards in his hands. By controlling the output of Iraq and Kuwait combined, he can influence about 9 per cent of free-market world output of oil and more than 20 per cent of Opec output. This gives him substantial

No sign of hidden treasure in black gold

ECONOMIC VIEW

RODNEY LORD

leverage to move the price from Friday's \$23.80 towards his preferred level of \$25 a barrel or even to his ultimate aim of \$30. Any attempt to reduce Iraqi and Kuwaiti output by blockade would intensify the shortage and raise the price still further.

However, the balance of supply and demand will also depend on how other oil producers react. According to a table drawn up by UBS Phillips & Drew, the other members of Opec could by themselves almost replace the entire output of Iraq and Kuwait. Saudi Arabia on its own could increase production from a recent level of 5.3 million barrels per day to a sustainable level of 7 million. In all, Opec may be capable of sustainable production of 27.8 million bpd compared with recent output of 23.1 million bpd. Iraqi exports are currently about 2.5 bpd and Kuwaiti 1.4 million bpd.

Whether the Saudis, with the Iraqi armour just across the

border, will be prepared to act as a swing producer, as on previous occasions, must be doubtful. But countries outside the Gulf will have no inhibitions about increasing output, especially as prices rise.

At whatever level oil prices stabilise, the effect on the world economy is likely to be less, dollar for dollar, than during the previous two oil shocks in 1973 and 1979. World inflation today is considerably lower than it was when oil prices began to rise in 1979. Higher prices are unlikely to drive inflation to the same high levels seen in that period.

The transfer of purchasing power from the industrialised world to the Arab world is also likely to be smaller because

sources of oil are more diversified. New fields have come on stream in the North Sea, Mexico and Alaska. Moreover the Gulf states have learned how to spend their income.

For the west's arms manufacturers, if for no-one else, the renewed tension in the Gulf has come at just the right moment when more traditional markets seemed to have gone into peaceful decline. German unification and 1992 in Europe will also help to boost growth.

According to work by the London Business School an oil price of \$25, if sustained, could add about half a percentage point to inflation worldwide. If fiscal and monetary policies were then tightened to bring inflation back

on to a downward track, the eventual cost in output could also be about ½ per cent.

For Britain as an oil exporter, though now rather a small one, the news is better than for importing countries. Although the surplus on trade in oil is running at only £200 million a month, a rise in the price to \$25 from last year's \$18 could cut the current account deficit by about £1 billion a year. In response the pound has begun to feel a slight twinge of its old petrocurency form.

Higher prices will also yield more revenue to the government, other things being equal, giving the Chancellor more scope to cut taxes in the budget. An extra £750 million will hardly transform the budgetary arithmetic, being only equivalent to ½p off the basic rate of income tax, but it will not come amiss.

The bad news for Mr Major is the policy response that the boost to inflation will rightly attract.

First to react is likely to be Japan, where the discount rate is widely expected to rise soon from its present 5½ per cent. It could well be followed by Germany, where currency union with the east is proving more costly and more inflationary than expected.

In the US, the picture is confused by the growing signs of weakness in the economy, which were compounded by the unexpectedly sharp rise in unemployment reported for July at the end of last week.

This follows poor figures for economic growth in the second quarter, which for the fifth quarter running indicated the economy growing at less than 2 per cent per annum. These figures would normally indicate a further cut in Fed Funds rate quite soon, but this is likely to be delayed by the rise in oil prices.

None of this is likely to require another rise in interest rates in Britain given the clear signs recently of falling demand, but as in the US it could well postpone a cut in rates. That could upset the timing of the election. Mr Major is unlikely to have uncovered a treasure trove.

THE leading economic minds in Czechoslovakia are at odds over economic reform and privatisation, as criticism mounts in the West that the country is not proceeding fast enough to open its economy to foreign investment.

The country's two leading reformers, Vaclav Klaus, the finance minister, and Vladimir Dlouhy, the economics minister, are considered to be radicals. Though they are therefore on the same side of the debate in their country, their views on privatisation, one of the cornerstones of economic reform, differ.

Mr Klaus, one of the country's most popular politicians, favours the voucher system of privatisation, of which there is no precedent in the West.

Under this system, citizens receive free investment vouchers which entitle them to buy shares in Czech companies. Eventually, a market in these shares will develop. "The point is that we are trying to avoid both extremes of privatisation," Mr Klaus said. "That includes selling shares to the people who have no savings and therefore cannot afford to participate in privatisation. There is simply not enough domestic capital in Czechoslovakia."

"On the other hand we do not want to sell to foreigners, because at the moment it is impossible to arrive at a proper valuation of assets. Therefore we try to find some original solutions."

Mr Klaus's comments amount to a criticism of the Hungarian privatisation programme, which involved the flotation of shares on the stock market. The criticism levied against the Hungarians is that their companies are being sold on the cheap to the sole benefit of foreign investors.

"It sounds like a paradox, but under the voucher system you do not sell the shares at a cheap price but you give them away for free," Mr Klaus said. "The idea is to distribute by means of vouchers something which you might call investment money. What we don't want to do is to distribute shares because that would give Mr X shares in a steel mill and

Czech reform held up by voucher plan debate



Klaus trying to avoid 'both extremes' of privatisation

Mr Y shares in a brewery. That would amount to moral hazard."

Mr Dlouhy, although not totally opposed to the system, is sceptical about the practical effects of vouchers. "First we must clean up the financial situation of the firms," he said. "There is a substantial overhang of old debts. Unless we are able to proceed on this matter, I do not see how privatisation, of whatever form, can proceed quickly."

"The second problem is how will the voucher system be compatible with other forms of privatisation, including the sale of shares to the public? Thirdly, and most important, how will the voucher system generate the

and investment bankers the message must be to proceed with caution and not to expect too much in terms of investment opportunities in East Europe in a short period of time.

Despite the caution and sometimes confusion which East European politicians exhibit on the issue of privatisation the process of economic reform has made substantial progress during the last few months. "People are always asking when will the reform start," said Mr Klaus.

"It has already started. We have dismantled most of the institutions of socialism. We have no longer a central planning commission, or a ministry of prices. We have dismantled the monobank system and introduced the two-tier system of a central bank and a network of commercial banks."

"I would like to remind our critics of two things," Mr Dlouhy said. "On January 1, Czechoslovakia is going to liberalise most of its price system and we are going to have a convertible currency. And this is very important. I fully understand that it did not go as well as it should have gone, but we had to stage a hard fight here for this concept to be accepted."

Mr Klaus also accepts that economic reform has not proceeded with the speed he originally wanted. He blames the reformers, communists, of which there are still too many in high places, for the lethargy. But he also warns the west of exaggerated expectations. "Many things are now taken for granted, which were definitely not granted eight months ago. They are forgotten because they are now considered natural. But still, I am not excusing ourselves for going slower than I would have liked to go."

Still both politicians are confident that the country, although a late starter on the question of reform, will emerge as the strongest of East Europe's economies. The level of skills is higher than elsewhere, and per capita debts are much lower than in Poland or Hungary.

Wolfgang Münchau
Prague

Turbulent week ahead for oil

OIL shares marked sharply higher in response to the Gulf crisis could well come under another kind of pressure this week. BP, Shell and Ultramar are scheduled to release financial results that can best be described as appalling.

Ironically, they will blame the low oil prices that dominated the second quarter of the year. It all seems so long ago now.

To a large extent the fast-changing situation in the Middle East will render these results meaningless. However, the figures will serve to highlight the considerable differences between quoted oil companies and the danger of marking the sector ahead indiscriminately.

Companies with high exposure to exploration and production activities will be early beneficiaries of higher oil prices. But refining and marketing on both sides of the Atlantic have experienced considerable improvements in margins, reflecting reduced capacity and steady demand. Asset location and product profile are now as important as the split between upstream and downstream.

Robert Horton's BP, which generates 55 per cent of earnings upstream, estimates that a \$1 swing either way in the price of a barrel of oil adds or deducts up to £250 million from annual earnings. Shell



Horton: set to disappoint

earns only 45 per cent of income upstream but is perceived to have a better product mix downstream. The key will be how fast refiners can pass down the line higher oil prices to protect margins.

As pure exploration and production stocks, Lasmo and Enterprise look set to rise, although the upside is limited in both cases. Lasmo's rating has raced ahead recently and is due for consolidation. Enterprise is overshadowed by the presence of two substantial share blocks that may be placed in the market.

Ultramar suffers from having exploration and production interests in Indonesia, far

from its downstream activities in North America, where the strong pound has done it no favours. Among second-line stocks, Premier and Aram have reserves that demand a re-rating.

Banking

While the message of gloom was uniform from banks last week, closer inspection of their interim figures reveals significant differences in their ability to cope with the economic climate.

All four clearers reported vastly improved pre-tax profits from a year ago, but only thanks to the absence of large Third World debt write-offs. Discounting these, profits were down by between 18 per cent and 79 per cent. The main reason was the collapse of Over-Gear UK plc, which turned bad-debt provisions into bingo numbers.

But here similarities end. At the operating level, Lloyds and Barclays managed gains of 4 per cent and 6 per cent respectively. NatWest, however, suffered a fall of 6 per cent, despite the consolidation of new overseas subsidiaries. At the bottom, Midland recorded a drop of almost a fifth.

The differences highlight the varying success the banks have had in their diversification policies. Net interest income from the core busi-

nesses has stagnated. Loan growth has slowed, while the move to interest-bearing current accounts keeps margins under pressure. So the gains have tended to come from fee income, much of it from recently acquired businesses, up 14 per cent at Lloyds, but only 8 per cent higher at NatWest.

The result is that Lloyds, with its strategy of concentrating on maximising returns from core business while promoting aggressive growth in financial services, is likely to regain favour.

Barclays, however, may face a spell in Coventry while it looks for an acquisition and stints on its dividend (up 12.5 per cent, compared with Lloyds' 16 per cent increase).

Finally there is Abbey National, whose 10.7 per cent increase in restated profits put all its new-found competitors to shame. Investors have welcomed the addition to the industry, but there are still risks.

Apart from Midland, the banks are trading at seven or eight times forecast earnings for the year. This is not expensive given the high yields, and the speed with which profits will recover when interest rates are finally reduced. The good news is not round the corner, but investors should be rewarded by the wait.

REPORTING THIS WEEK

Aircraft sales likely to help BA fly to £150m in first quarter

TODAY

Interviews: BBA Group, CIA Group, Edinburgh Oil & Gas, Pacer Systems, Transport Development Group, TR Pacific Investment Trust, Transwood, Wales City of London Properties, Finance: Richmond Oil & Gas, Saville, (J) Gordon Group, Economic statistics: Retail Sales (June - final), credit business (June).

TOMORROW

ANALYSTS will be hoping for a positive statement from Lord King, the chairman of British Airways, and Sir Colin Marshall, the chief executive, when they report on first-quarter trading.

The group has seen strong passenger growth in the first quarter, at about 13.2 per cent, but has been unable to raise profit margins due to higher fuel, staff and aircraft costs.

Tim Coombs at County NatWest estimates that pre-tax profits will rise from £96 million to £150 million. However, this includes up to £50 million from aircraft sales. Market forecasts range from £130 million to £150 million.

Barclays de Zotte Wedd expects interim pre-tax profits at WPP, the marketing services group, to climb from £26 million to £44 million, boosted by a first-time contribution from Ogilvy & Mather.

Interim: Admiral, British Airways (first quarter), Freeman Group, Gold Fields Property, Law Debenture Corporation, Molynx Holdings, Vogelsang Metall Holdings, WPP Group, Finance: Crown Earnings, Heath (Samuel) & Sons, McKay Securities Group, New Ways, Rasmussen, Stewart Zigomata, Unitech.

WEDNESDAY

In May, GKN, the motor components and industrial services group, issued a warning of lower profits in the first four months. The group will be affected by lower car production during the first six months.

Brian Rusling at County NatWest is looking for interim pre-tax profits of £297 million, compared with £110.1 million last time, while some forecasts rise to £100 million.

Commercial Union, the composite insurer which was



A positive statement wanted: Sir Colin Marshall

Holdings, Property Security Investment Trust.

THURSDAY

Good progress is expected at BOC Group, the industrial gases company headed by Richard Giordano, with pre-tax profits forecast to rise by 9 per cent to £94 million in the third quarter, giving an 11 per cent increase for the nine months to £264 million, according to UBS Phillips & Drew.

The fall in the oil price will affect interim profits at British Petroleum. Historic cost net income is expected to slump to £135 million, against £477 million, according to Shearson Lehman Hutton, although this will be affected by stock losses which could be as high as £200 million. Replacement cost net income is expected to be £332 million, compared with £371 million.

British Telecom should ring up pre-tax profits of £710 million in the first quarter, against £635 million, according to UBS Phillips & Drew.

The quarter will include a £50 million pre-tax benefit from the pension fund "holiday" not included previously. Market forecasts range from £700 million to £720 million.

Interim historic cost income at Shell Transport & Trading is expected to fall from just above £1 billion to £470 million, while replacement cost income is forecast at £695 million, against £912 million. Market forecasts range from £440 million to £700 million. Once again, profits have been affected by a lower oil price.

However, analysts expect profits to rise in the second half, possibly by as much as 50 per cent, largely due to the troubles in the Middle East and an increasingly volatile outlook which is likely to result in a significant increase in oil companies' profits next year.

News is awaited on the severity of the trends that were evident in the first quarter at Smith & Nephew, the pharmaceuticals group, particularly sales and margin pressure. Smith New Court is looking for a 4 per cent improvement in first-half pre-tax profits to £67 million.

Interim: BOC Group (third quarter), British Petroleum (second quarter), British Telecom (second quarter), Dares & Metcalfe, Epton Trust, Ewin Group, Foreign and Colonial Investment Trust, Klenworth Benson Group, Kode International, Metal Business, Philips Lamps Holding, Relyon Group, Rotorik, Royal Dutch Petroleum, Shell Transport and Trading, Smith & Nephew, TR City of London Trust, Finance: CSC Investment Trust, Trans-Natal Coal Corporation, Economic statistics: UK producer price index (June - provisional).

FRIDAY

Second-quarter results from Unilever, the Anglo-Dutch food and consumer products group, are expected to see pre-tax profits climb from £455 million to £480 million, according to BZW. This is at the top end of forecasts, starting at £465 million.

Interim: Ayrshire Metal Products, Hawall Whiting Holdings, March Group, Unilever, Finance: Border Television, West Trust, Wholesale Franchises, Economic statistics: US producer prices.

Philip Pangalos

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Ensuring help for offenders

CONVICTED criminals could soon find a job more easily once released from prison, thanks to an initiative backed by Sedgwick, the insurance broker, and being launched tomorrow by Apex Trust and Business in the Community. The idea is to offer alternative insurance protection to the traditional fidelity bond - bonds taken out by companies, especially retailers, to insure against pilfering by staff - since these bonds will not provide insurance against anyone with a criminal record. The Apex bonds will insure against a loss of up to £6,000 from any individual, criminal record or not, for a subsidised cost of £30 a year. "The Department of Employment has agreed to pay half of the actual cost," says Andrew McCall, campaign manager for Apex, the national ex-offender employment charity. "It will remove one of the major barriers which restrict the employment of young offenders."

merged it with a similar operation being run by Donald Crighton, to create Ardil Crighton. He has now bought Portman, the import-export division of Selfridges, trebling the size of his group and giving it a £30 million turnover. "It's part of Sears' rationalisation programme," explains Crighton, who was managing director of London Graving Dock until its nationalisation in 1977. He also reveals that all Thorogood's old management skills have been of use during these most recent negotiations since Ardil stepped in after an attempted management buyout of Portman had failed. "They couldn't raise the finance, but the entire management team has now agreed to stay on with us."

Progress cut Short

NO SOONER had Shorts, the Belfast plane maker, started



"Sorry - we're out of cars!"

steaming steadily towards a bright future under its new Canadian owner, Bombardier, the transport equipment group, than President Saddam Hussein puts grit in the main bearing. Advancing steadily down its Belfast assembly line are 16 Tucano military trainer aircraft ordered nearly two years ago by the Kuwaiti Air Force as part of a £20 million contract. First deliveries to Kuwait were due this year. The odds are that the 16 aircraft may be switched to help fill the RAF's half-completed order for 130, if the technical specifications of the Kuwaiti and RAF versions can be reconciled. Otherwise, the company is likely to be in the position of being able to offer very quick delivery as it pursues other export possibilities. One thing, however, distinguishes this problem from others that have afflicted the previously state-owned company in recent years. Any losses resulting from the Gulf imbroglio will be picked up by Bombardier, rather than by taxpayers.

C&C floors them

CAPITAL & Counties, the South African-controlled property group, had analysts on the edge of their seats at its Lakeside retail development park at Thurrock, Essex. Ten minutes into the presentation one of the party, whose arm was already in a sling, landed on the floor with a thud when

his chair collapsed. No sooner had he been picked up, brushed down and repeated than the next one went. The presentation continued with everyone sitting on the edge of their seats, in a decidedly gingerly fashion. At lunchtime, just as people were beginning to relax, one of the C&C men started to tuck into a plate of food on his lap and became victim number three. Analysts were left hoping that this curious chain of mishaps is not a bad omen about the future of the Lakeside developments or, indeed, Capital & Counties shares.

Fall for Fell

WHOOOPS... Colin Fell, industrial materials analyst at Kleinwort Benson, has lived up to his surname in the August edition of the firm's UK Investment Handbook, which lists profit forecasts for companies in all sectors. The page that deals with "other industrial materials" details Fell's thoughts on 24 different stocks, and he recommends six of them as worth buying. One of those stocks was Parkfield, Roger Felber's video and engineering group, whose shares were suspended at 48p a share - down from a high of 518p - on July 18. Administrators were called in the next day. Given the pace of company failures at the moment, perhaps our sympathies should be extended to the hapless Fell.

Carol Leonard

Portfolio
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Prices are Friday's middle prices. Change, dividend, yield and P/E ratios are calculated on middle prices. (aa) denotes Alpha Stocks.

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John Water	216	0-5	19.8	5.2
South Water	205	0-5	20.0	9.8
South Water	225	0-5	22.2	9.9
Thames Water	223	0-3	22.4	3.8
Wash Water	240	0-3	23.4	8.3
Wash Water	240	0-3	23.4	4.0
Wash Water	240	0-1	20.3	1.4
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Queen's Bench Divisional Court

Leaving care issue to the jury

the view that there was evidence which could justify a jury concluding that lack of care aggravated the cause of death. It was then in His Lordship's judgment appropriate to leave such a question to the jury.

It would of course be necessary to give the very careful direction envisaged by Lord Justice Croom-Johnson, such direction had been given in the present case, a renewed request should be held.

LORD JUSTICE WATKINS said: "The jury's verdict was clearly wrong. It was a case of an instance of suicide.

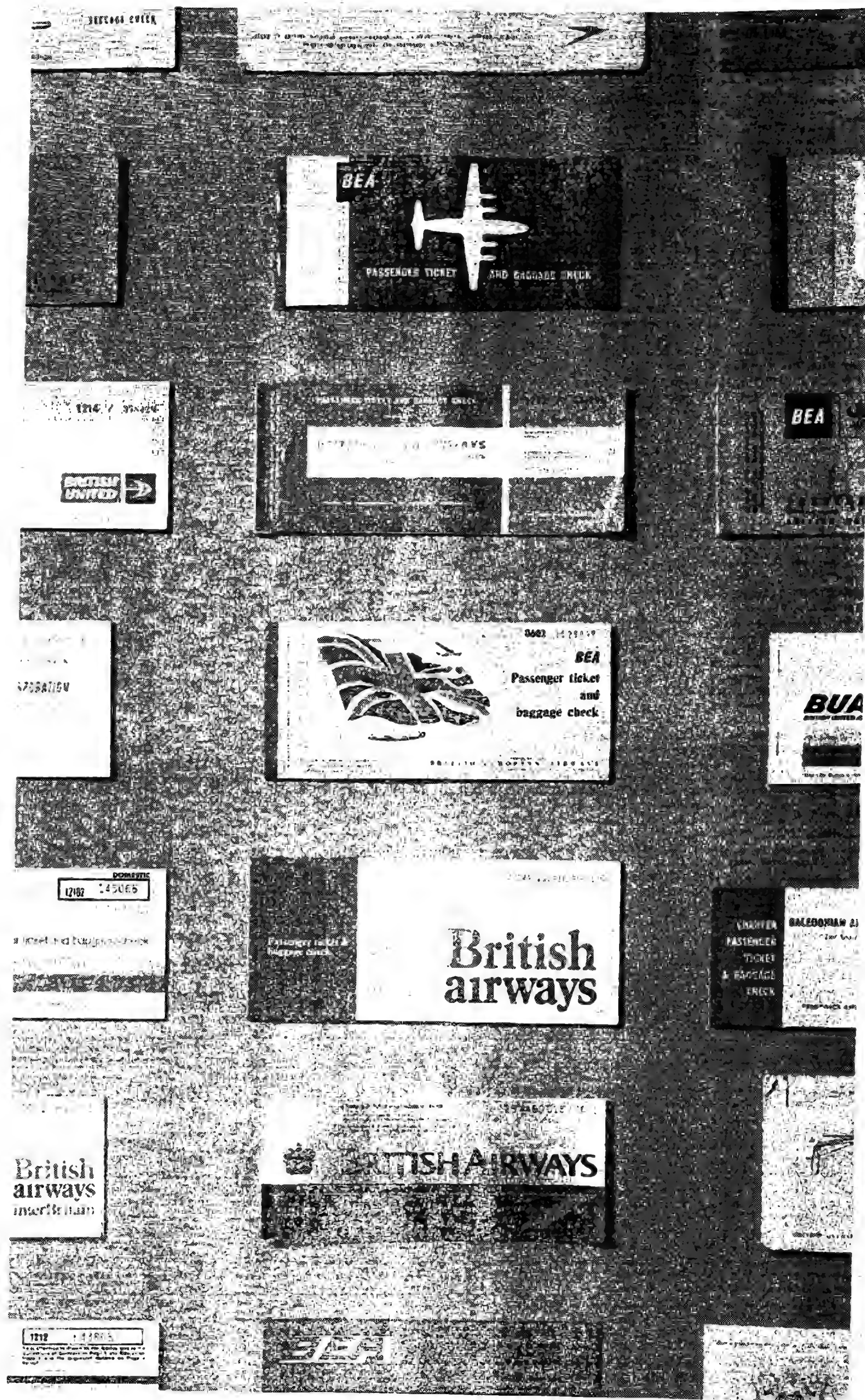
In common sense there can have been no other verdict although, to spare the feelings of those relatives to whom the word 'suicide' might give offence, the jury was asked to answer to the statutory question, 'How did the deceased come to his death?' could have been 'deliberately killed himself by hanging' or simply 'killed himself by hanging'. The jury would have been very simply guided by direction so find and was not.

Lack of care could be relevant only to the opportunity deceased had to be able, while

His Lordship was convinced that the High Court should have the power to substitute appropriate circumstances for a verdict wrongly returned by a jury, where it was clearly manifest on the proper direction that the jury found.

The trouble and expense of fresh inquests was in some instances wholly unwarranted and unjustifiable but in this case the evidence was so contradictory that a fresh inquest was ordered.

Solicitors: Treasury Solicitor, Sharpe Pritchard for Mr K. Francis, Birmingham; B. Birnberg & Co. Southwark.



Many happy returns.

Congratulations to Gatwick airport on its 60th birthday from British Airways, the direct descendant of the airport's first scheduled airline. Many happy returns also (and a few singles) to our 4 million passengers a year who fly to 44 scheduled destinations worldwide from Gatwick's North Terminal.

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A gem in the air industry's crown

This summer Gatwick celebrates its diamond jubilee as an airport.

Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent, reports on progress and problems

When Allan Munds became managing director of Gatwick Airport Ltd six months ago he took charge of 1,876 acres of west Sussex which sees more activity in an average 24 hours than most cities see in a month.

The single runway, which is nearly two miles long and more than 150ft wide, handles 190,000 flights a year and more than 21 million passengers pass through the two terminals.

A total of 120 airlines from all over the world use Gatwick's vast expanse of concrete which has a combined area equivalent to 28 miles of six-lane motorway.

To handle the constant stream of passengers and meeters and greeters, more than 22,000 people are employed at the airport, and 2,200 of them work for Gatwick Airport Ltd.

The problems presented by such a big and complex undertaking are enormous. Mr Munds admits that simply managing it all can, at times, be a headache. "You cannot afford to relax for a minute," he says. "It is a job of co-ordination and constant attention to detail to ensure that it all clicks into place."

Gatwick's position, midway between London and Brighton, is at the centre of an ideal catchment area from which to draw scheduled and charter passengers. It is not so easy, however, to find the large numbers of staff locally who are needed to service the

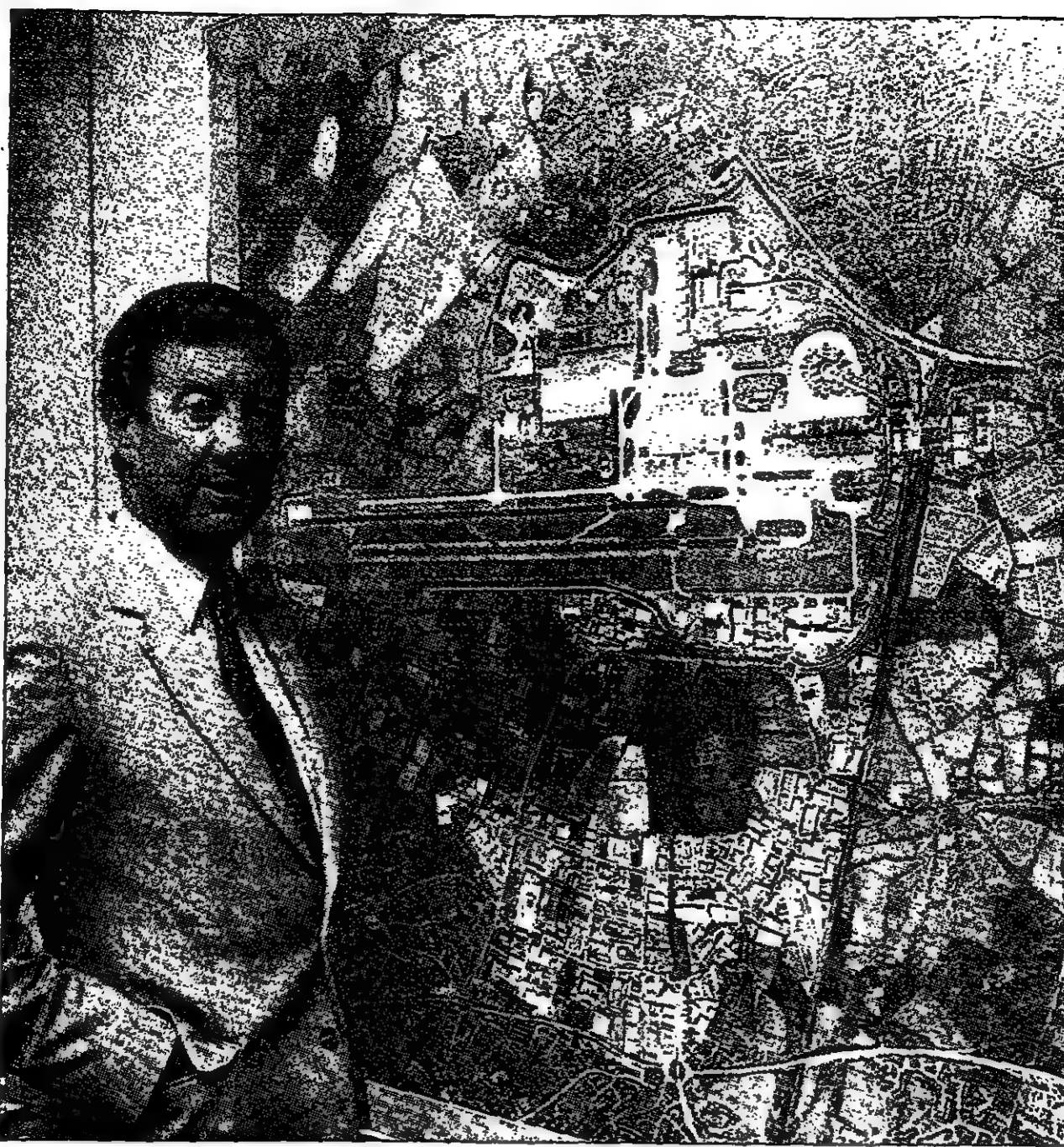
operations. Many airlines have to advertise throughout Britain before attracting the right people, and they are then faced with the problem of housing them in an area where they can reach the airport easily for shifts, which can begin late at night or in the early morning when public transport is not always available.

"You cannot just advertise locally and know you will get a queue of people desperate for a job," Mr Munds says. "For example, we had to recruit 300 additional security staff last year because of the tighter security demanded by the government in the wake of the Lockerbie air disaster, and had to advertise in Brighton, Worthing and Hastings."

Some catering firms lay on coaches to bring in people from Kent or London because of the local labour shortage.

Nearby towns, such as Horsham, Crawley and Haywards Heath, are among the most prosperous in the country, with almost no unemployment, sky-high house prices and high average earnings, largely thanks to Gatwick's employment potential.

Those who take jobs at Gatwick work in one of Britain's most successful industries. Air travel is the one sector which appears to have bucked the economic trends and is still growing while many others are declining. In the past financial year, despite a 13 per cent drop in charter traffic, the number of passengers handled by the airport



Overall view: "You cannot afford to relax for a minute," says Allan Munds, managing director of Gatwick Airport

rose because of a 17 per cent increase in scheduled flights, giving Gatwick a 14.4 per cent rise in revenues and an operating profit of £56 million.

The sheer number of passengers wanting to use the airport has caused severe congestion in the terminals and led to a number of novel schemes to ease the crush. A new 24-hour radio station, called Airport Information Radio, broadcasts over a ten-mile radius a constant update on flight delays, road conditions, car parking availability and any other problems which might be encountered at the airport.

In the terminals, a British company, Videcom, offers a sophisticated computer system which can be used by any airline's check-in staff so passengers do not necessarily have to queue in front of the one or two desks operated by a specific airline. If the terminal becomes too congested, the company has developed a detailed contingency plan to ease matters, providing extra seating, food, drink and even entertainment for the waiting passengers.

In both terminals, work is constantly going on to improve facilities for passengers and aircraft. About a third of all airlines at the airport now use the new North terminal, where the construction of additional piers and aircraft stands is continuing.

At the South terminal, a £22 million refurbishment of the departure baggage and check-

in system was opened recently and the final phase of redevelopment work will be completed by 1994.

Gatwick's parent organisation, BAA (formerly the British Airports Authority), has invested a great deal of money, not without controversy, into providing more shops and duty free areas, which, it claims, reflects its policy of "improved passenger choice through competition". The policy is a success, judging by the 29 per cent increase in BAA's profits last year.

Simply processing and looking after the ever-increasing tide of people and the continuing construction work involves organisations which at first sight do not appear to have any connection with the aviation industry.

Customs and Immigration staff must be on hand at all times, together with a large contingent from the Sussex police, while the Civil Aviation Authority's National Air Traffic Services provides air traffic control cover.

Watching over it all is the Gatwick Airport Consultative Committee, which meets quarterly and represents interests of passengers, local residents, environmental and amenity groups, local authorities, consumers and the travel industry.

The seamless organisation, working under enormous pressure, gives the airport a national importance out of all proportion to its size, an airport that only 30 years ago some people were convinced would be a white elephant.

Facts behind the glamour

A small army of cleaners, technicians and emergency staff keep Gatwick going

THERE are some 17,000 "backroom boys and girls" on the staff at Gatwick, dedicated in a vast array of technical and service tasks to keeping the airport operating efficiently around the clock, 365 days a year (Arthur Reed writes).

Their jobs range from catering to cleaning, from airport management to air traffic control, from selling in the shopping mall to clearing snow.

Among the many jobs at Gatwick Airport are:

● **Manning the monitoring centres:** these are situated in the North and South terminals. Equipped with radio and closed-circuit television systems, they keep a minute-by-minute eye on the terminal buildings, piers, satellite terminal, and rapid-transit systems, alerting staff to any problem which may interrupt the smooth flow of passengers to and from the aircraft.

● **Airfield operations and safety:** this unit is responsible for keeping a close check on the condition of the runway, taxiways and aircraft parking aprons under all weather conditions. It has under its control about 30 specialist vehicles to cope with snow and ice. When the operations duty manager publishes "Alert Amber", meaning snow is imminent, staff are divided into 12-hour shifts. Snow-clearing machinery is connected to the towing vehicles and engines are started. Anti-icing vehicles are topped up, and extra management staff are drafted in to help.

GAL's machinery is able to sweep the two-mile long, 150-foot wide Gatwick runway in about 40 minutes once the snow has stopped falling. A cutter and blower follows to pick up the snow and blow it 150 feet clear of the runway.

● **Security and control:** the Gatwick division of the Sussex Police has prime responsibility for dealing with the threat of terrorist attack at the airport. Many of the airport police are armed, but at the same time they maintain the traditional role of the British "bobby" in offering directions and advice to the public.

● **Passenger search:** GAL staff search all passengers and staff going "airside" — beyond Customs and Immigration — and control all movements of vehicles between landside and

airside. Security staff check passengers for items such as offensive or imitation weapons, compressed gas cylinders or explosives.

In the centre of the South terminal departure area is the giant thermal neutron analysis machine through which the bags of many transatlantic passengers are passed as part of the ever-tightening security.

The Gatwick 22 Crime Prevention Panel, made up of representatives from airport management, airlines, airport agencies and the police, meets regularly to discuss airport problems and how to tackle them. Customs and Excise has more than 300 officers based at the airport, investigating drugs and revenue offences, and controlling bonded warehouses and the duty-free shops.

● **Fire service:** Gatwick has a force of 78 officers and men manning eight fire-fighting appliances, trained to reach the scene of an accident anywhere on the airfield within two minutes of call-out. Their base is a fire station complex which came into operation in 1983 at a cost of £1.25 million.

● **Engineering:** the rapid transit systems: A special-ist team of technicians and engineers operates a 24-hour maintenance service for the two driverless rapid transit lines at the airport, one connecting the South terminal with the satellite terminal, the other connecting South and North terminals.

Computers control the starting, train cruising speed, stopping, and the opening and closing of the doors in the vehicles and at the stations.

● **Preserving the environment:** men and women from the building, estates and civil engineering branch of Gatwick Airport Ltd's engineering department carry out the airport's extensive landscaping policy.

The airport contains a wide range of specially-planted trees, from oak to yew, from maple to willow, and tree surgery is regularly carried out to ensure that the height of the trees does not affect sight lines or radar tracking. Grass is kept short to discourage flocks of lapwings from landing to feed where they could pose a danger to airliners.

Baggage search: the thermal neutron analysis machine

Because there is so much space in the North terminal, there is ample room for services, as well as restaurants, bars, duty free and High Street shops.

The planners decided from the beginning that the new terminal would fit in with its local environment. The River Mole, which now runs around the north boundary of the airport, has been diverted five times during the history of Gatwick and flows behind a 14-yard high and 65-yard wide

earthwork, which shields the nearby residents from the bulk of the terminal. The banking also minimises aircraft noise.

About 47,000 trees and shrubs have been planted throughout the area.

Getting to the North terminal from the South terminal is an experience in itself. An elevated, single-rail system, devised by Westinghouse, is fully automated and the three-quarter mile journey takes two minutes. The waiting time between trains is three minutes.

Already the terminal is handling about five million passengers a year and work is underway to increase this. Four more aircraft stands are being completed and a new pier will add a further six by mid-1991. These will enable the terminal to handle 15 wide-bodied aircraft on piers at any one time.

The number of check-in desks is being increased from 56 to 84, and a 475-room hotel is being built, linked to the terminal by a walkway.

Inter-terminal express: the three-quarters of a mile journey takes just two minutes

Review of 'no second runway' pledge

THE long-term future of Gatwick Airport, in particular whether it should have a second runway to expand its annual passenger capacity beyond 30 million, is to be discussed by a working group set up by Cecil Parkinson, the transport secretary.

The group includes local and environmental interests, airports and airlines, travel and government departments.

Gatwick was one of the potential new runway sites recently identified by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA). The others were Heathrow, Stansted, Luton, Bournemouth, Bristol, Lydd and Manston. The CAA report

said that a second runway to the south of the airport boundary would introduce "new and complex air traffic control (ATC) problems". The present control tower would not have an uninterrupted view of most of the new runway, while the need to cross the existing runway to reach the terminals would complicate the movement of aircraft, increase ATC workload and adversely affect the use of the present runway.

However, the report added, a new runway would improve substantially the effectiveness of competition between airlines serving the South-East.

Gatwick's runway and terminal limits would be reached

The airport needs to expand, but how? Arthur Reed examines the options

by 1996, when the annual passenger total would be 29 million, compared with 21 million today, the report said.

Thirty million passengers a year could be handled in 2000 and this figure was expected to remain the same in 2005. Landings and take-offs could reduce from 220,000 in 1995 to 208,000 in 2005 as planes become larger.

Many observers consider the review of a second runway for Gatwick as an academic exercise. In a 1985 white paper

on airports policy the government expressed its view that a second runway should not be built there, nor at Stansted. When appointing the new working party, Mr Parkinson reminded it of this view and of the "acute environmental problems" which gave rise to the white paper.

Government policy against a second runway goes back to 1971. A pledge was given to West Sussex county council, valid for 40 years from 1979, that another runway would

not be started — and the only area on the airport where it could have been sited has now been built over.

Assuming there will be no new runway, relief for Gatwick from the increase in passenger and cargo level, could come in the near term through the transfer of air traffic to Stansted, where a new passenger terminal is due to open next year, and from a continuation of the downturn of charter traffic to the Mediterranean.

Countering the latter trend, business traffic to and from Gatwick is forecast to continue to grow, and the airport will be used increasingly by

holidaymakers on long-distance flights.

Growing passenger numbers will be handled by further development of the North terminal, and through the modernisation of the departures baggage and check-in system in the South terminal, due for completion in 1994.

An upsurge in freight is anticipated as a result of the cargo terminal expansion, which includes two new transit sheds.

How Gatwick will cope with the loss of income when the hugely profitable duty-free concessions are banished among EC countries early in 1993 remains to be seen.

Environmental blend is the key to the £250 million North terminal

When the Queen opened Gatwick's £250 million North terminal in March 1988 the airport was established as one of the most efficient and passenger-friendly in the world (Harvey Elliott writes).

The terminal, for which planning permission was awarded in 1983 after a long public enquiry, allows Gatwick to handle up to 25 million passengers a year, nine million more than the original South terminal could take.

One of the main problems facing the planners was how to fit in a sophisticated arrivals and departures area, aircraft parking bays and piers into a limited space. The solution was to build the terminal on three storeys, wrap the piers around it and link it to the South terminal and the railway station by an elevated roadway and a high-speed transit system.

The exterior is a reflective dark blue, which helps the terminal to blend into the surroundings, yet gives an impression of grandeur.

The terminal is a plain box, made up around a prefabricated steel skeleton which not only provides large public areas but which can also be quickly adapted to cater for changing needs. It is covered by 9,000 panels made of an elaborate sandwich of dark blue enamel backed by honeycombed aluminium and mineral wool, which helps provide sound insulation. The main aircraft piers are, by contrast, painted silver.

The internal design is open plan, but its partition walls can be moved easily. Four reinforced concrete columns carry services such as electric-

ity and water through all floors of the building and link directly to the main operations systems and other facilities.

Beneath the building, hidden from view, is a road used by supply vehicles which feed their loads directly through two main service cores. Above the ceilings on each level is a network of walkways giving maintenance crews direct access to the lights and other equipment.

The effect is to give each group of users — passengers, airlines, concessionaires, control authorities and service staff — a means of access without impinging on the space of others. Such segregation is also important in maintaining security.

Inside the building, there is a sense of calm, enhanced by the carefully chosen colours in the 20,000-plus square yards of carpet, and the easy-to-

follow yellow-on-black signs. Baggage from aircraft arriving at the seven stands already built are unloaded on to one of seven carousels capable of coping with 2,500 passengers an hour, while the out-going bags are automatically sorted and loaded on to aircraft through one of the world's most modern systems.

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earthwork, which shields the nearby residents from the bulk of the terminal. The banking also minimises aircraft noise.

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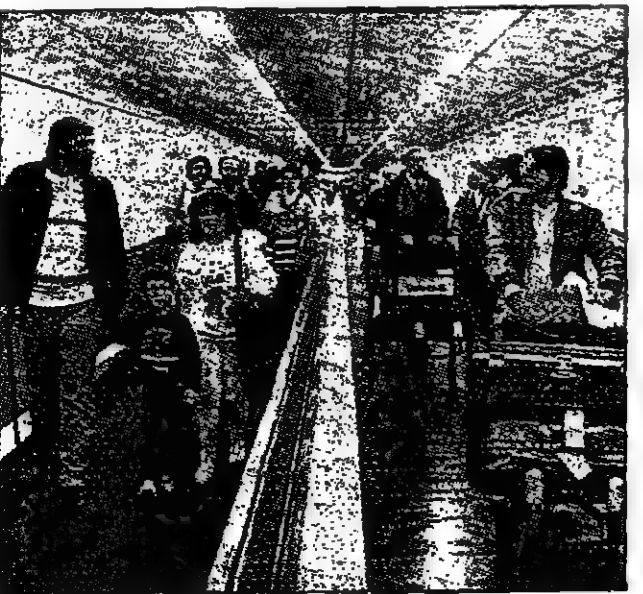
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The number of check-in desks is being increased from 56 to 84, and a 475-room hotel is being built, linked to the terminal by a walkway.

After a £22 million refurbishment, the South terminal is among the world's best

Checking in is getting easier



Easy on the feet: the moving walkways are a boon

has the hallmarks of a country pub, claims it is the most visited pub in the country. Children can be kept happy either in the television lounge or the play area. Many airlines run their own private lounges for business or first class passengers.

After going through passport control and the strict security checks, passengers move into the international departure lounge, where there is Britain's largest duty free shop, more bars and buffets and a self-service currency exchange machine.

Passengers reach their air-

craft via two piers and the circular satellite building, which is connected to the main terminal through an automatic rapid transit system.

Only one part of the terminal dates back to the original building of 1958 — the first pier to be built which contains eight aircraft stands. The second pier was opened in 1977, with an extension added in 1984, providing four additional aircraft stands capable of handling the biggest jets. Passengers using Pier 2 move to the final departure lounges along ten moving walkways.

The satellite was opened in

1983 and replaces the former North pier. It has eight stands, all jetty-served, and most can hold a wide-bodied and two smaller aircraft.

The circular building is designed to make the most of the available space and features its own duty free shop, bar, buffet, travellers' shop and telephones. Its fully automated rapid transit system is similar to that in the North terminal and operates with two rubber-tired passenger cars on elevated guideways.

The 325-yard journey is covered in less than a minute and an average of 10,000 people a day use it.

As well as the 31 aircraft stands in the South terminal there are a further 25 remote stands served by coaches.

Incoming passengers go through the immigration hall to the reception area, where the progress of their baggage from the aircraft is monitored on display screens.

More than 90 per cent of all bags are delivered to the carousels within 20 minutes of the aircraft coming to a standstill, and delivery times are frequently much shorter.

British Rail has opened a ticket desk to help avoid the queues which can form in the main station area.

The South terminal is now better than ever following a £22 million refurbishment programme of the departure check-in and baggage system, including the phased replacement and modernisation of the check-in desks.

The project was launched in 1988 and by the spring 43 desks out of 97 had been replaced. The system, capable of sorting up to 60 bags a minute, is the most technically advanced in the world.

Inter-terminal express: the three-quarters of a mile journey takes just two minutes

Long haul to pass winning post

For a licence fee of just £1.1s the racecourse where Ernie Piggott won the 1918 Grand National became an airport which handles 21 million passengers a year



Very flat, Sussex: race-goers at Gatwick in the Thirties and (right) the first scheduled flight leaves the airfield on May 17, 1936



Gatwick's South terminal stands on the spot where Ernie Piggott, grandfather of Lester, rode Poethlyn past the winning post in the 1918 Grand National. Racegoers had been quick to appreciate the flat land on the Sussex weald to the south of Horley village, and in 1890 the Gatwick Race Course company bought the land to turn it into one of the leading sporting venues in Britain with fast, direct rail links to London from its own station.

Soon afterwards came the development of aircraft and the search began for large areas of flat land from which the flying machines could operate. During the first world war the racecourse, named after John de Gatewyck who was granted the title to the land in 1241, had to be closed several times when Royal Flying Corps pilots crashed there, but it was not until Ronald Waters began seeking land to develop a private flying club that Gatwick's potential was formally recognised.

In June 1930 Mr Waters bought 90 acres and applied to the Air Ministry's civil aviation department for a licence

Development has been rapid since the Queen opened Gatwick. Sir Peter Masefield, past chairman of the then British Airports Authority, was instrumental in saving the airport from government derequisition. Sir Freddie Laker (Laker Airways) and Sir Adam Thomson (BCal), both with profitable charter operations, contributed to its initial success.

to use it as a landing ground. Two months later, for £1.1s Gatwick became "a regular place of landing or departure by aircraft carrying passengers for hire or reward".

Gatwick is now the second busiest international airport in the world, handling more than 21 million passengers a year and with 151 destinations in 63 countries served by direct, scheduled flights.

Just as in 1930, Gatwick has only one runway, yet the vast strides which have taken place in aviation technology in the past 60 years enabled it to handle nearly 190,000 takeoffs last year. Mr Waters could offer only a handful of flights a day, for which he charged either five shillings for a short flyer, or £1.1s for stunt flying. He, like the airport operators today, was faced with opposition from local residents, who objected to the aircraft noise.

The still popular racecourse, however, proved a great attraction for private pilots with an interest in horse racing. Gatwick was also becoming important as an emergency landing ground for airlines which, for one reason or another, could not get into the main airfield at Croydon.

The government was worried about the length of the runway and the mud which often bogged aircraft down once they had landed. For a time it seemed that Mr Waters and his partners would see their vision of a large airfield at Gatwick evaporate.

In 1934, the licence was renewed by new owners who called themselves Airports Ltd and Gatwick became London South. Led by a dynamic team of aviation enthusiasts, the company designed a terminal which was circular in shape and known as the Beehive.

On May 17, 1936, passengers boarded the first scheduled flight to Paris on the original British Airways Ltd for which they paid £4.5s, which included first-class rail travel from Victoria station.

Gatwick was requisitioned by the RAF after the outbreak of war and was used as a base for fighters, bombers, trainers, spotters and foreign squadrons until it was handed back for civilian use in 1946.

At first, those responsible for planning London's airport needs ignored Gatwick, but pressure on the Air Ministry eventually resulted in a decision to operate Gatwick as a



Early racing poster charter airport for an experimental period of six months.

With many demobbed pilots anxious to remain in aviation and plenty of spare aircraft on the market, the number of airlines hoping to cash in grew rapidly. Then came the Berlin blockade and a highly successful air pageant in 1948, which once again kept Gatwick afloat, despite a decision by the London Area Airports Committee to drop Gatwick from its plans.

By the early 1950s, Gatwick had earned a nickname as the ghost airfield and it was not until 1953, when Jersey Airlines began operating a service

to Alderney using Heron aircraft, that its fortunes began, gradually, to improve.

The man who did more than anyone to save it was Peter Masefield, since knighted, who had been the chief executive of British European Airways and could see the airport's potential.

He successfully fought off government attempts to derequisition the airport; in 1955 it was decided that Gatwick would be extended as a major airport and in 1956 the original terminal and runway were closed to allow the building of a new complex.

In June 1958, the Queen officially opened Gatwick Airport, the first in the world to incorporate a mainline station as part of the terminal complex, the first to have a pier from the terminal to the aircraft stands and the second airport in the world to be equipped with an instrument landing system.

By the end of the year, 186,172 passengers had travelled through it, even though many airlines were reluctant to switch services there, arguing that it was doomed to be a white elephant.

In 1959, however, the first

foreign scheduled airline, Sudan Airways, chose Gatwick as its main London arrival point. Throughout the 1960s, work went on to enlarge the airport, lengthen the runway to take large jets and improve facilities for passengers, the number of whom had grown to 1.4 million by 1966.

By now the newly created British Airports Authority, under the chairmanship of Mr Masefield, was emphasising Gatwick's benefits and selling hard to world airlines.

Airlines such as the Libyan national airline, Tarom and Ariana Afghan Airlines began operations, and men such as Freddie Laker and Adam Thomson were rapidly developing highly profitable charter operations. When Caledonian merged with British United Airways in 1970, the government decided to form a second force of independent airlines and British Rail began a regular non-stop, return service from Victoria, the future of Gatwick was assured.

Since then, despite the formal abandonment of plans to build a second runway, Gatwick has become one of the world's leading airports.

HARVEY ELLIOTT



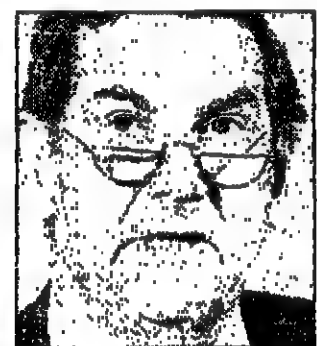
Royal handshake: The Queen opens Gatwick in 1958



Sir Peter Masefield



Sir Freddie Laker



Sir Adam Thomson



In transit: cargo could rise to 300,000 tonnes by 1995

Soaring increase in air freight

Rising air cargo volumes have resulted in an initial £1.5 million being invested in an extension to the cargo warehouse

From livestock to vegetables, computer equipment to cars, Gatwick handles 210,000 tonnes of cargo each year. The forecast is that this could rise to 300,000 tonnes by 1995.

Some areas are showing startling increases. In May, for example, air freight to and from European and North African destinations was up 64 per cent compared with the same month of 1989, while cargo to and from Japan soared by 152 per cent.

Around 85 per cent of Gatwick's cargo is transported by scheduled passenger services, rather than on charters. The annual total includes around 8,000 tonnes of mail.

Gatwick has 11 parking stands for cargo aircraft, four of them big enough for the latest Boeing 400 series. To cope with the anticipated expansion of freight, Gatwick Airport Ltd (GAL) has invested £1.5 million in the first phase of extending the cargo warehouse by 21,500 sq ft, or 30 per cent. The project also provides a further 4,000 sq ft of offices, 27,000 sq ft of forecourt and aircraft parking area, and a service road.

An additional transit shed is being added this year to the present ten, while another is planned for 1991. The transit shed lease operators are British Airways, Gatwick Handling and Servisair - three of Gatwick's four nominated handling agents - Roy Bowles Cargo, which is owned by BAA, and the Post Office. A specially designed inter-

national unit for the Post Office is included in the development plan.

GAL forecasts that its extensions should meet needs into the mid-1990s, adding "We aim to ensure that the level of investment in the cargo terminal matches the continuing growth of this business sector, and the development of Gatwick's role as part of the London airports system world cargo centre."

The various bodies concerned with air freight are linked into the London Air Cargo Promotion Group, which aims to sell overseas the facilities offered by the three London airports. BAA leads the group, which includes road transport representatives, Customs and Excise and the Transport and General Workers' Union.

The group has banded the drum abroad since 1982, making a point of telling exporters about what it claims to be the world's most sophisticated Customs clearance cargo computer system, ACP90. The group adds that Gatwick is connected with Heathrow and Stansted through a cargo haulage business offering bonded transport.

Gatwick's cargo terminal also includes a number of special facilities, from an animal holding unit to storage areas for radioactive materials, a unit for X-ray cargoes and another for storing damaged hazardous goods.

ARTHUR REED

Briefcases overtake buckets

Charter business made Gatwick but now many more international airlines operate scheduled flights from there

MORE than 120 airlines serving 350 destinations in 70 countries operate from Gatwick. The number of passengers booked on scheduled flights is higher than those who travel with their buckets and spades on charter flights.

On a peak day Gatwick handles 700 flights and almost 100,000 passengers (Harvey Elliott writes). It is still the premier charter airport in Britain, with dozens of flights heading for the sun spots every day. As the distinctions between scheduled and charter flights become increasingly blurred, many seats on scheduled flights are taken by passengers who have booked holidays through travel agents and tour operators, while the charter airlines have introduced first-class services offering greater leg room and other improved facilities for those willing to pay a little extra.

The airport's main growth began in the 1970s when the government decided that no new airline and no charter carrier could use Heathrow. At the same time, the demand for package holidays, especially across the Atlantic, was expanding after the deregulation of the United States' aviation industry.

This was followed by the development of more European services with new airlines competing strongly with the established "flag carriers" on many of the prime routes.

When British Airways took over British Caledonian and

moved its operations to the North terminal, the pattern changed again and an additional handling agent was brought into the South terminal to look after the growing number of foreign airlines anxious to move in.

The changing make-up of passengers at Gatwick has been clearly seen recently with the introduction of more regular flights between Gatwick and Tokyo and, thanks largely to the services of All Nippon Airways and Virgin, the number of Japanese passengers has increased by more than 300 per cent in the past year.

Air Europe provides more scheduled services from Gatwick than any other carrier and its 306 scheduled service departures, plus 150 charters a

week, account for more than 20 per cent of air movements from its home base.

The airline has more take-offs and landings from Gatwick than any other airline. Last year it flew 1.2 million international scheduled passengers and about the same number of charter passengers.

Dan-Air has been operating from Gatwick since 1960, when it transferred its main base there from Blackbushe in Hampshire. Now one in every six flights out of Gatwick is operated by the airline.

October, Dan-Air will return to the long-haul market after a lapse of 12 years, with a weekly service to Goa in southern India.

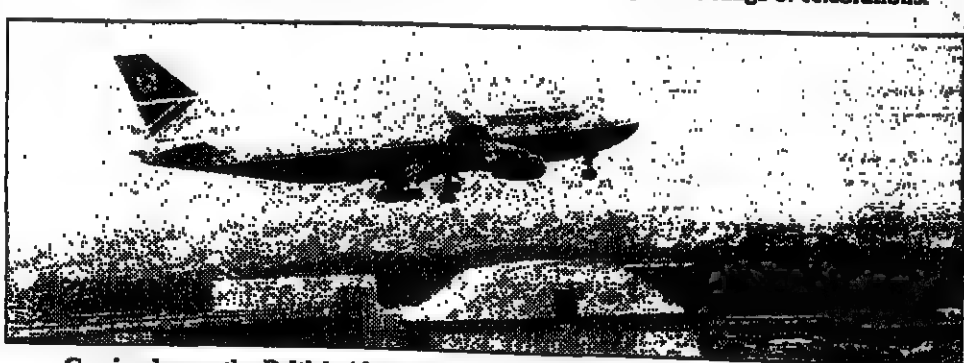
One of Dan-Air's main

strengths lies in its engineering base at Gatwick, where 560 engineers work for a number of other airlines as well as on its own fleet of 14 aircraft.

British Airways, which dominates the North terminal, has a fleet of 33 aircraft at Gatwick, plus others which are used occasionally, including a new Boeing 747-400 which flies in twice a week. BA employs a staff of 6,500 at the airport, including 1,500 flight crew and 250 who work in the growing cargo business.

The average load factor on its aircraft is 80 per cent, with 60,000 passengers carried each week. This makes it second to Dan-Air in size, and it holds the third biggest number of flight slots behind Air Europe and Dan-Air.

Because a forerunner of BA made the first scheduled flight from Gatwick on May 17 1936, the airline is taking a particular interest in this year's anniversary and plans a wide range of celebrations.



Coming home: the British Airways 747-400 series which flies in twice a week

Fast, efficient airport to city rail services are soon to be a trend worldwide

Capital links for travellers

THE direct rail service that connects the airport with Victoria station means Gatwick can claim to have the best links with London of all three airports serving the English capital.

That claim will be countered next year with the opening of a similar service linking Stansted in Essex with Liverpool Street. Trains have been tested on the new line, which has a station beneath the new airport terminal. Heathrow has plans for a spur from the Paddington-West of England line beneath the airport.

In the meantime, Gatwick remains among a small select group of world airports offering direct and fast travel into the heart of the cities they serve. There are a few others in Europe: Birmingham (although it is necessary to transfer to the airport's driverless train for the final leg of the journey), Brussels, Frankfurt and Zurich come to mind, but it is a trend which many other

airport authorities are embracing. Manchester's second terminal, where building started recently, will have its own railway station, while the French plan to take their TGV expresses beneath the terminals at Charles de Gaulle airport, Paris, and on to the Channel Tunnel.

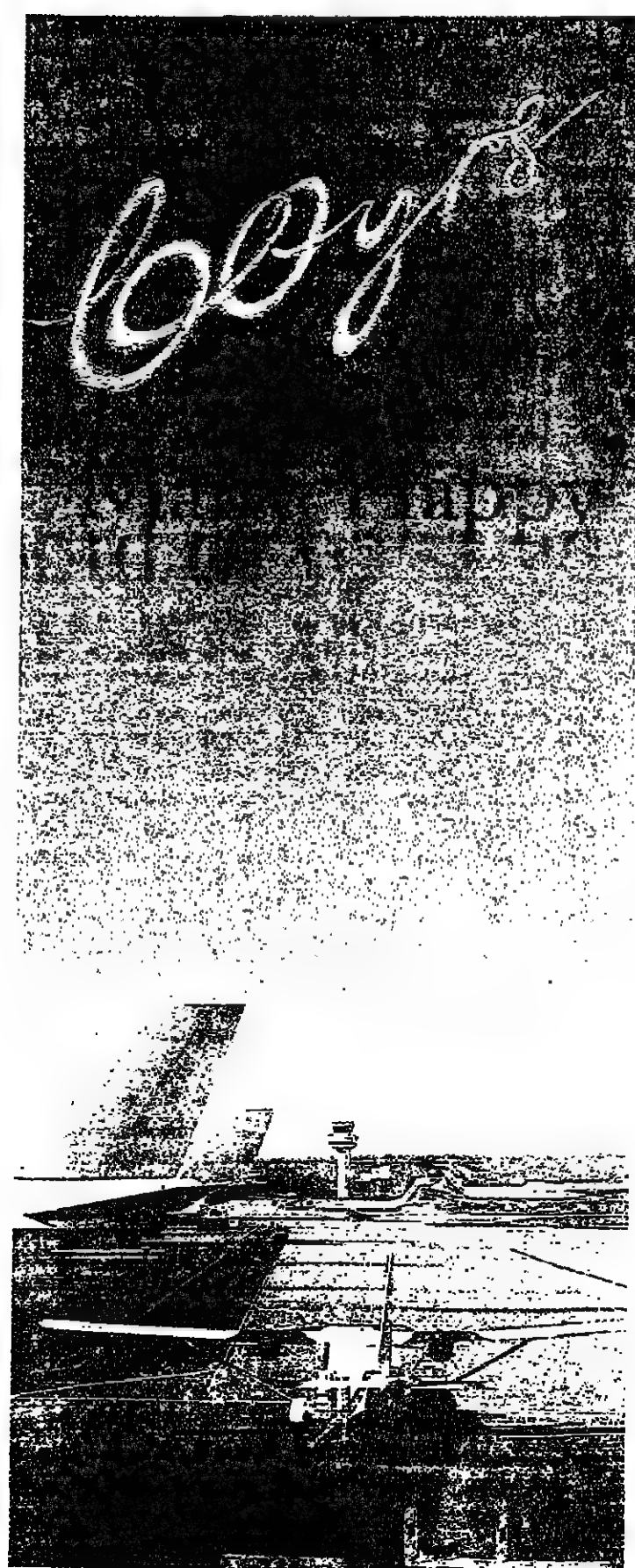
Heinz Ruhman, the chairman of the West German airline, Lufthansa, said recently: "In ten years' time no German airport will be without a railway station beneath the terminal. The railways are an answer to the airport capacity problem."

The Gatwick Express service was launched by British Rail InterCity in May 1984, with a non-stop 30-minute

ham, Portsmouth, Croydon, Guildford and Reading.

Gatwick is well-served by its road system. The M23 joins the M25 London orbital motorway which links with Heathrow airport to the west, and in the east with the M11 which runs past Stansted airport to East Anglia. The westbound M25 also offers connections with the M3, M4 and M40 motorways, while eastbound it connects Gatwick with Kent and the Channel ports.

In the absence of the helicopter service that used to link Gatwick and Heathrow, and which was grounded after complaints about noise, coaches provide the only door-to-door public transport service between the two airports. Gatwick is a main terminus for all the main bus companies, with services including Speedlink (Gatwick-Heathrow), Jetlink 747 (Gatwick-Heathrow-Luton-Stevenage) and Flightline 777 (Crawley-Gatwick-Victoria).



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A fresh breeze breathes life into Cowes Week and banishes memory of frustrating first day

Red Arrow speeds to victory

By BARRY PICKTHALL

COWES Week burst into life yesterday. Transformed by a brisk Force 3 breeze and sparkling seas, the Solent provided a perfect day's racing for the 700 or more crews, a marked change to the frustrating, over-heated conditions experienced during Saturday's opening events.

"It was a really good race," John Best, skipper of the RAF's victorious Red Arrow, said after competing in the Sigma 38 fleet.

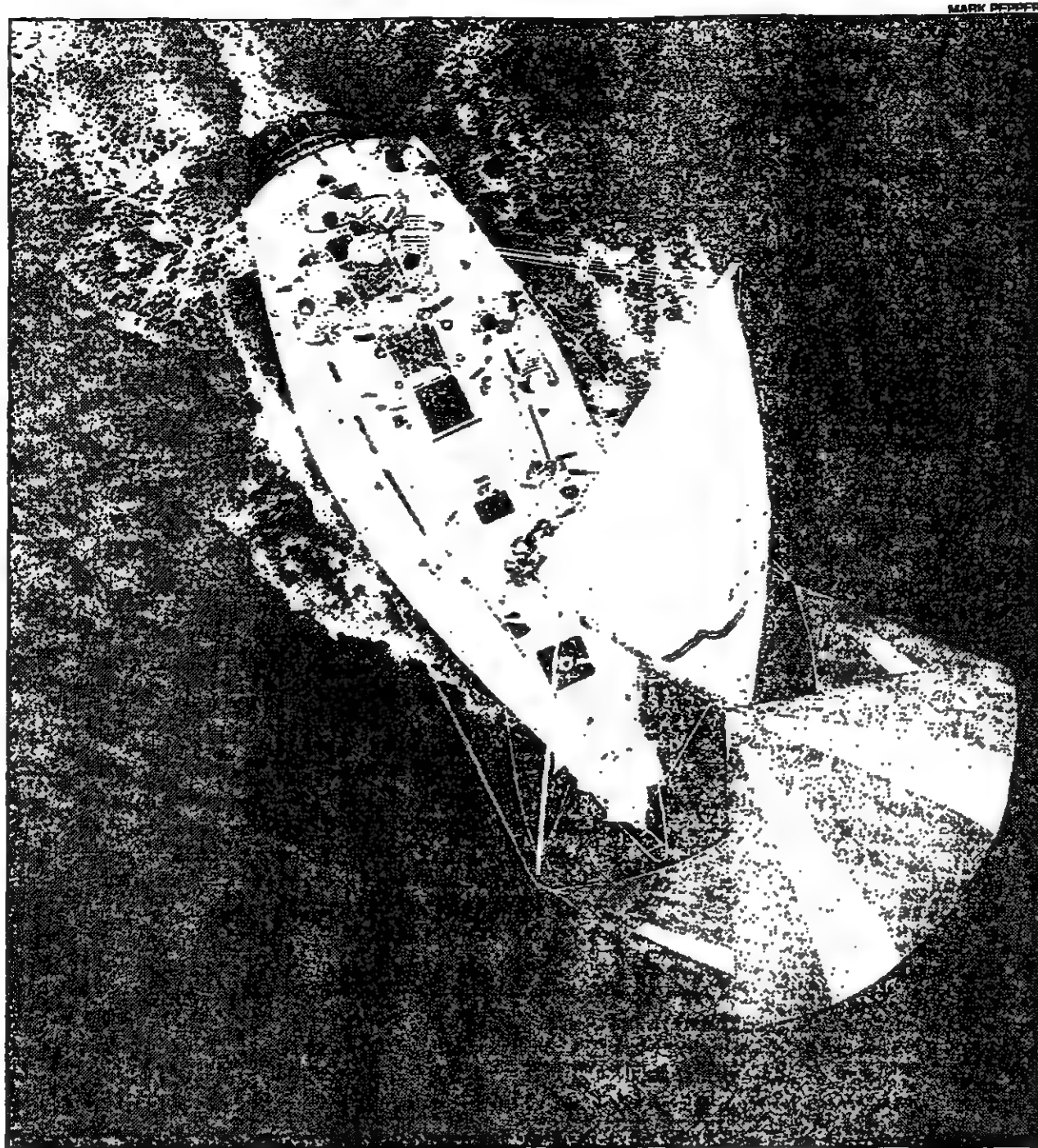
The Duke of Edinburgh, sailing with King Constantine in the same class aboard Ocean Aisler's Yeoman XXVIII, fared less well after finishing second on Saturday. Starting on an easterly spinnaker reach, Prince Philip was in fifth place until taking up a lifting duel with another competitor without spinnaker. He dropped back to nineteenth at the first mark but recovered to finish thirteenth.

Instead, the running was taken up by Summer Pudding, with the former 505 sailor, John Locke, calling the shots. He had chosen to start well to leeward of the bulk of the fleet, and sailing in clear air, pulled into a short lead ahead of Bullfrog and Red Arrow when rounding the southeast Ryde middle buoy off Wootton Creek.

Summer Pudding held the lead for the first round of the 18.5-mile course, until falling into the backwash of the smaller Sigma 38 fleet. "We just couldn't sail our own course and were eventually caught on the wrong side of a wind shift," Locke said.

Instead, it was the RAF crew, who had crash-landed on a gravel bank off Beaulieu during Saturday's race, who picked their way through the melee best to finish with a short lead over Bullfrog, followed by Hugh Jago's Flamboyant, Saturday's winner, in third.

With so little competition this year within the IOR divisions, now yesterday by David Head's Aida of Brighton, interest in the handicap fleet centred on the Division 3 yachts. The front running was taken up by Richard Matthews' former America's Cup challenger, Crusader, but at the finish, the 12-metre slipped to seventh after failing to save her time against the



Mixed fortunes: Yeoman XXVIII, second on Saturday, but only thirteenth yesterday in the Sigma 38 class

Beneteau 45S Bounder, of Chris Little, and the J40 Hawk, of Stuart Johnstone, steered by Peter Bateman. Crusader, another Beneteau, finished third.

Another Beneteau that might have done better was Derek Walter's 51R Spirit of the North, with Owen Parker on board. Well up during the

closing stages of the race, her crew suffered the embarrassment of snagging their red spinnaker on the mast of an anchored spectator boat.

In the J24 fleet of one design, the day belonged to Ted McClean's Gossip. Following John Locke's successful tactic of starting at the leeward end of the line,

Gossip pulled away to a significant lead during the spinnaker reach. To Motherbank then fell behind the aptly named Distracted for a short period before pulling out all the stops to finish a remarkable nine minutes ahead of their nearest rival.

The most successful yacht

so far in this Land Rover-sponsored week, however, is Trocar, the 26-year-old Class 6 yacht from the east coast, skippered by Duncan Munro. She won for the second day running yesterday, three minutes ahead on handicap of Peter Bainbridge's Folboat Periwinkle, followed by the Quatlet, Pluto, in third.

Running a tight ship is secret of success

COWES

COWES may be sweltering but one man is keeping cool. Major Peter Snowden, the secretary of the Combined Cowes Clubs, for the past 18 years, has been in charge of everything that moves during Cowes Week. No mean feat with an entry of 800 or more boats, each manned by anything from a three to 15 crew.

During the Snowden years, Cowes has become a highly-polished operation, combining the latest in technology with the oldest of traditions.

"The shore facilities are vastly improved and now there is something for everyone," Snowden said. "I hope that over the years I have improved and that the standard has risen."

This is not an international championship regatta. It is a regatta for all the local classes and for visitors from all over the world. People are here to race but during the day, they are on holiday and want to enjoy themselves in the evening and that is what you'll see here.

When Snowden started, the regatta centre was in two broken-down cafes. Now, with a purpose-built office on the parade, Snowden and his team can monitor everything in a degree of comfort.

Computers have caused a few more teething problems. That esteemed club, the Royal Yacht Squadron, the start and finish point for every race, at first would have no truck with computers. Instead, last year they relied on sea scouts ferrying results back to base. That worked fine until one young sea scout was hijacked by his mother and, together with the results, was ordered home for leaving everyone in the dark.

"The first year we had computers, they packed up as we were trying to get the first results out on Saturday," Snowden said. The trick, it seems, is to own everything. "You don't want to be subject to hiring or loaning equipment. This way you know it all works."

The greatest change during the Snowden years has been the introduction of a split starting line, the outer section for the day boats and the inner section for the night boats. The aim was to get everyone away in time for a full day's racing.

One well-known club asked for it to be recorded that this suggestion had all the ingredients for total chaos. Snowden said: "The following year the yacht club concerned came to watch the chaos and went away with the ball between its legs. The objection continued until the then signaller of the Royal Yacht Squadron, Peter Purfield, announced that if the clubs did not make the new system work they would not be invited back. The split line has been in place ever since."

At the age of 71, Snowden is ready to hand over to his successor, Captain Dan Bradley. Snowden feels he is leaving a mark on the week, but he changes is pretty much as good as it can be. "Every year after the regatta we have a review meeting with delegates from every racing class," he said. "You hear a mass of suggestions for alterations but then you go back and discover we tried that years ago and it didn't work then."

ALIX RAMSAY

Miller's luck falls before Dernies in painful tour finale

By PETER BRYAN

ROBERT Miller could be forgiven for thinking "I was robbed" at the end of the 675-mile Kellogg's Tour of Britain yesterday in Manchester. He started at Brighton last Tuesday quickly confident he could repeat his victory of last year.

It was not to be. The Scot, with only the York-to-Manchester stage of 126 miles to wrest the Danish title from the Dernies, of Belgium, ran out of luck. He and Dernies had raced the previous three days, seemingly locked together, with identical aggregate times, but it was the latter who wore the yellow jersey of race leader by virtue of having higher daily placings.

On second's gain on the Belgian was all that Miller needed to win Britain's main professional race for the second time, but yesterday proved an unhappy chapter — among several — in his racing career.

The record books will show that Miller lost the race by four seconds, but the truth is that he lost by two crashes to the Belgian's one. Both crashed the finished time battered and blood-stained and Dernies had little left of his racing shorts after crashing with Miller and Leppard Sierra, of Venezuela, in the last 500 yards of the race as 19 riders weaved about the narrow road jockeying for the finishing sprint.

Dernies was up first and away. Miller was less fortunate. His bike was unavailable to him was one on which he had taken his first tumble at the 16-mile mark. The gears would not work but by then that was of no consequence. The vital seconds had been lost and for Miller the race was over. He struggled in, last of the group of 19 and four seconds behind Dernies.

Last week, in Sheffield, Miller's claim to have won the third stage from Dernies was turned down on appeal.

On a SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Double by Brydon earns Japan trip

By a SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

FORM shown at Leicester during the national track titles which concluded on Saturday enabled Doug Daley, the national coach, to name his final squad for the world championships which begin in Japan on August 20. He has named nine riders, four of them for the road events, and only one woman, Louise Jones, the holder of the Commonwealth sprint title.

The women road riders have agreed to miss Japan in favour of riding the European Community stage race in the autumn which replaces the Tour de France Femminil.

Saturday's winners included Sally Dawes, aged 17, who completed a double on her home track by adding the senior pursuit title to that for the points, and Stewart Brydon, who, confirming the sharp form that took him to the sprint title earlier in the week, won the open British grand prix also.

Colin Sturges's victory in the professional pursuit was a certainty now that Tony Doyle appears to be concentrating on the winter sprints, but the Ever Ready-Falton squad found gold, too. Russell Wright, who took the keirin title ahead of the favoured Paul McHugh.

The inclusion of Chris Boardman in the team for Japan will depend on the opinion of the surgeon who operated on him two months ago for a complete dislocation of his right knee. The year-old rider from the Wirral surprised everyone by taking silver in the 4,000-metre pursuit championship, conceding the title to Simon Lillistone, and the women road riders have agreed to miss Japan in favour of riding the European Community stage race in the autumn which replaces the Tour de France Femminil.

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SATURDAY

ROYAL NORTHAMPTON YC

IOR Class 5, Ocean's Cup 1, Jacobite (S. Jones); 2, Centurion (J. Dick); 3, Jockey Club (J. Henson); 4, Plover (P. O'Connell); 5, Plover (P. O'Connell); 6, Plover (P. O'Connell); 7, Plover (P. O'Connell); 8, Plover (P. O'Connell); 9, Plover (P. O'Connell); 10, Plover (P. O'Connell); 11, Plover (P. O'Connell); 12, Plover (P. O'Connell); 13, Plover (P. O'Connell); 14, Plover (P. O'Connell); 15, Plover (P. O'Connell); 16, Plover (P. O'Connell); 17, Plover (P. O'Connell); 18, Plover (P. O'Connell); 19, Plover (P. O'Connell); 20, Plover (P. O'Connell); 21, Plover (P. O'Connell); 22, Plover (P. O'Connell); 23, Plover (P. O'Connell); 24, Plover (P. O'Connell); 25, Plover (P. O'Connell); 26, Plover (P. O'Connell); 27, Plover (P. O'Connell); 28, Plover (P. O'Connell); 29, Plover (P. O'Connell); 30, Plover (P. O'Connell); 31, Plover (P. O'Connell); 32, Plover (P. O'Connell); 33, Plover (P. O'Connell); 34, Plover (P. O'Connell); 35, Plover (P. O'Connell); 36, Plover (P. 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Versatile Holy Zeal poised to overcome step back in distance

By MANDARIN

DAVID Arbuthnot's Holy Zeal, a creditable third in the Northumberland Plate last month, can regain the winning thread in the Armstrong Memorial Challenge Cup at Ripon today.

Holy Zeal looked the likely winner of that competitive two-mile Newcastle handicap when holding a clear advantage three furlongs out, but failed to resist the late challenges of the eventual winner, Al Mahab (also successful at Deauville yesterday), and Dance Spectrum.

Arbuthnot has taken a calculated risk in bringing Holy Zeal back to an extended 12 furlongs today, but the versatile four-year-old, who at Kempton in May comfortably beat the subsequent Ascot Stakes winner Retchow over two miles, should have sufficient strength to hold off his two most dangerous rivals today, the three-year-olds Isle Of Arran and Black Sapphire.

Isle Of Arran, despite swishing his tail, showed improved form to lead a Lingfield claiming handicap by seven lengths and is clearly on the upgrade. But I have more regard for Black Sapphire, who, after winning at Salisbury and Warwick, chased home John Sutcliffe's Mull House at Newbury in June.

However, Mark Birch, who won on Holy Zeal at Ayr last

season, can enjoy a successful reunion with the son of Alzao, who is my nap.

Mohammed Moubarak, whose Green Line Express ran extremely well when second in last week's Sussex Stakes at Goodwood, has sound hopes of a double through Magic Express (3.30) and State Dancer (4.30).

Magic Express, who runs in the Tommy Sheddin Challenge Trophy, was no match for Line Of Vision at Pontefract recently, but had earlier chased home Aromatic at Lingfield, and the latter was only caught close home by Kawtulin in a competitive Goodwood handicap on Friday.

State Dancer showed improved form to finish third to Durkhan at Newmarket last month, and the fourth and sixth in that event, Croupier and French Senor, were successful on Saturday. He can open his account in the Beaumonts Insurance Maiden Stakes at the expense of Spanish Empire.

Peter Easterby's promising Infamy Zee, who kept on well when fourth behind Lettbridge at Ayr, looks booked for his first victory in the Trampoline Maiden Stakes.

Easterby also has a strong contender, Please Believe Me, in the feature event at Not-

tingham's evening meeting, the Tote Nottingham Stewards' Cup. But preference is for Bill O'Gorman's Guns And Roses.

This Ballad Rock colt won a shade cleverly when getting up late to head Pure Green at Newmarket last month.

With High Plateau and Rhodes running so moderately in their latest outings, the way looks clear for Clive Brittain's newcomer, Krissos, a son of Good Times, to score in the two-mile Nottingham Forest Football Club Maiden Stakes.

Michael Stoute's stable returned to top form at the weekend, and one of his debutantes, Please, may prove too speedy for fellow Newmarket challenger Chelworth in the Mastin Moor Miners Welfare Maiden Fillies' Stakes.

Michael Blanshard's Joie De Rose, a fluent winner on firm ground at Doncaster in May, may be the answer to the tricky Rainworth Miners Welfare Handicap, while Jack Berry can take a step nearer to completing his first century in a season with Fivesevenfive capturing the Leslie Marler Challenge Trophy at the expense of Anglos.

Blinkered first time
RIPON: 3.30 Paces: Thoma, 5.0; 4.15 Sheldan, Nottingham: 5.45 Anglos, 6.15 Alzao, 6.15 Alzao, 6.15 Alzao.

Scudamore returns with mixed fortunes



Champion return: Peter Scudamore, having recovered from a wrist injury, lost no time in getting off the mark for the new jumping season when galloping a 4-1 double on Walk Of Life (above) and Pharaoh Blue for Martin Pipe at Newton Abbot on Saturday.

Scudamore was riding in England for the first time since last May, but he finished the meeting

badly shaken after Rahib fell in the final race. Scudamore sat down for five minutes after his fall, but gave the thumbs up sign to his wife, Marilyn, and declared himself all right.

Most jockeys would have given up on Walk Of Life, who jumped deliberately in the Dimplex Tango Handicap Chase and seemed to have no hope of catching Kar-

natak. But Scudamore never stopped pushing and when Karnatak stopped to a walk in the last 100 yards, Walk Of Life stayed on to snatch the prize on the line.

Charles-Jones celebrated the all-clear after 15-month battle against cancer with a brave comeback by completing the course in the first event on Richard Lionheart.

Great expectations for Stoute after Kartajana display

By GEORGE RAE

WHEN a trainer has won the thick end of £700,000 and is still described as having had a quiet season, it says something about the burden of expectation he carries.

Michael Stoute fits into that category. He has trundled along steadily accumulating prize money, but without, as yet, adding the frequent big-race successes which make for a truly memorable year.

With three months of the season remaining, however, Stoute has time to put that right. Kartajana's impressive win in the Vodafone Nassau Stakes at Goodwood on Saturday suggested that here is a high-class filly coming to her best, and the two-year-old Majid's triumph in the Vodafone Maiden Stakes was a further indication of Stoute's form.

Kartajana arguably owed Stoute a favour. She was strongly fancied for the Oaks - and was at one point ante-post favourite - only to run abysmally, before the Middle Park. After finding trouble early in the race.

She was a different filly on Saturday, producing a decisive burst of acceleration in the final furlongs to hold off Starlet. "She's entered in plenty of good races, including the Yorkshire Oaks," Stoute said. "Being a June foal she should do well in the second half of the season, and looking further ahead, I'd like to keep her in training next year as a four-year-old."

Majid is a name to remember, for those who can unravel the Arabic knot of Mujadilis, Mujahids and Mukadamahs currently inhabiting the highest branches of the juvenile tree.

The \$2.1 million son of Danzig, and a brother to Qui-

Danzig, made short work of his rivals to earn a 33-1 quote from Coral for next season's 2,000 Guineas. "I'm very happy with him," Stoute said. "I don't think he'll tackle a mile this year although he may go to seven furlongs."

Despite a late challenge from Steve Caughen, who completed a double on Song Of Sixpence and Pay Homage, Willie Carson made certain of the Ritz Club Trophy for the leading jockey at the meeting when Thabik gave him his seventh success.

Frank's John Gooden, an ardent European campaigner of his horses, now has a choice of a group three race at Baden-Baden or the Desmond Stakes at the Curragh for Thabik.

Clive Brittain is also looking forward to completing a double with Croupier in the Mail On Sunday Handicap, but Richard Hills took the riding honours with a 239-1 treble.

On a day when the country was consumed with celebrating the Queen Mother's ninetieth birthday, the Queen had two winners at Windsor with Once Upon A Time and Full Orchestra.

Full Orchestra was Carson's 131st winner of the season, and with Pat Eddery riding in Ireland today he has the opportunity to make further inroads into the reigning champion's lead of nine.

Selections

By Mandarin

2.30 Shepherd's Verdict.
3.30 Holy Zeal.
4.00 Black Sapphire.
4.30 State Dancer.
5.00 Infamy Zee.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent

2.30 Colin Selzer.
3.30 Paces.
4.00 Black Sapphire.
4.30 State Dancer.
5.00 Anzoshito.

Michael Seely's selection: 4.00 Black Sapphire.

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 4.00 ISLE OF ARRAN.

Going: firm Draw: no advantage SIS

2.30 GO RACING IN YORKSHIRE HANDICAP (3-Y-O: £2,132: 6) (10 runners)

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Long handicap: 15-0 Magic Express, 11-4 Paces Fantasy, 4-1 Pacific Gem, 6-1 Nice And Sharp, 7-1 Big Ed.

1989: HAZY DANCER 7-7 A Mirror (20-1) M Britain 15 ran

FORM FOCUS PACIFIC GEM 4th (M) (W) (B) (C) (S) (D) (E) (F) (G) (H) (I) (J) (K) (L) (M) (N) (O) (P) (Q) (R) (S) (T) (U) (V) (W) (X) (Y) (Z) (AA) (AB) (AC) (AD) (AE) (AF) (AG) (AH) (AI) (AJ) (AK) (AL) (AM) (AN) (AO) (AP) (AQ) (AR) (AS) (AT) (AU) (AV) (AW) (AX) (AY) (AZ) (BA) (BB) (BC) (BD) (BE) (BF) (BG) (BH) (BI) (BJ) (BK) (BL) (BM) (BN) (BO) (BP) (BQ) (BR) (BS) (BT) (BU) (BV) (BW) (BX) (BY) (BZ) (CA) (CB) (CC) (CD) (CE) (CF) (CG) (CH) (CI) (CJ) (CK) (CL) (CM) (CN) (CO) (CP) (CQ) (CR) (CS) (CT) (CU) (CV) (CW) (CX) (CY) (CZ) (DA) (DB) (DC) (DD) (DE) (DF) (DG) (DH) (DI) (DJ) (DK) (DL) (DM) (DN) (DO) (DP) (DQ) (DR) (DS) (DT) (DU) (DV) (DW) (DX) (DY) (DZ) (EA) (EB) (EC) (ED) (EE) (EF) (EG) (EH) (EI) (EJ) (EK) (EL) (EM) (EN) (EO) (EP) (EQ) (ER) (ES) (ET) (EU) (EV) (EW) (EX) (EY) (EZ) (FA) (FB) (FC) (FD) (FE) (FF) (FG) (FH) (FI) (FJ) (FK) (FL) (FM) (FN) (FO) (FP) (FQ) (FR) (FS) (FT) (FU) (FV) (FW) (FX) (FY) (FZ) (GA) (GB) (GC) (GD) (GE) (GF) (GG) (GH) (GI) (GJ) (GK) (GL) (GM) (GN) (GO) (GP) (GQ) (GR) (GS) (GT) (GU) (GV) (GW) (GX) (GY) (GZ) (HA) (HB) (HC) (HD) (HE) (HF) (HG) (HI) (HJ) (HK) (HL) (HM) (HN) (HO) (HP) (HQ) (HR) (HS) (HT) (HU) (HV) (HW) (HX) (HY) (HZ) (IA) (IB) (IC) (ID) (IE) (IF) (IG) (IH) (II) (IJ) (IK) (IL) (IM) (IN) (IO) (IP) (IQ) (IR) (IS) (IT) (IU) (IV) (IW) (IX) (IY) (IZ) (JA) (JB) (JC) (JD) (JE) (JF) (JG) (JH) (JI) (JJ) (JK) (JL) (JM) (JN) (JO) (JP) (JQ) (JR) (JS) (JT) (JU) (JV) (JW) (JX) (JY) (JZ) (KA) (KB) (KC) (KD) (KE) (KF) (KG) (KH) (KI) (KJ) (KL) (KM) (KN) (KO) (KP) (KQ) (KR) (KS) (KT) (KU) (KV) (KW) (KX) (KY) (KZ) (LA) (LB) (LC) (LD) (LE) (LF) (LG) (LH) (LI) (LJ) (LK) (LM) (LN) (LO) (LP) (LQ) (LR) (LS) (LT) (LU) (LV) (LW) (LX) (LY) (LZ) (MA) (MB) (MC) (MD) (ME) (MF) (MG) (MH) (MI) (MJ) (MK) (ML) (MN) (MO) (MP) (MQ) (MR) (MS) (MT) (MU) (MV) (MW) (MX) (MY) (MZ) (NA) (NB) (NC) (ND) (NE) (NF) (NG) (NH) (NI) (NJ) (NK) (NL) (NM) (NO) (NP) (NQ) (NR) (NS) (NT) (NU) (NV) (NW) (NX) (NY) (NZ) (OA) (OB) (OC) (OD) (OE) (OF) (OG) (OH) (OI) (OJ) (OK) (OL) (OM) (ON) (OO) (OP) (OQ) (OR) (OS) (OT) (OU) (OV) (OW) (OX) (OY) (OZ) (PA) (PB) (PC) (PD) (PE) (PF) (PG) (PH) (PI) (PJ) (PK) (PL) (PM) (PN) (PO) (PP) (PQ) (PR) (PS) (PT) (PU) (PV) (PW) (PX) (PY) (PZ) (QA) (QB) (QC) (QD) (QE) (QF) (QG) (QH) (QI) (QJ) (QK) (QL) (QM) (QN) (QO) (QP) (QQ) (QR) (QS) (QT) (QU) (QV) (QW) (QX) (QY) (QZ) (RA) (RB) (RC) (RD) (RE) (RF) (RG) (RH) (RI) (RJ) (RK) (RL) (RM) (RN) (RO) (RP) (RQ) (RR) (RS) (RT) (RU) (RV) (RW) (RX) (RY) (RZ) (SA) (SB) (SC) (SD) (SE) (SF) (SG) (SH) (SI) (SJ) (SK) (SL) (SM) (SN) (SO) (SP) (SQ) (SR) (SS) (ST) (SU) (SV) (SW) (SX) (SY) (SZ) (TA) (TB) (TC) (TD) (TE) (TF) (TG) (TH) (TI) (TJ) (TK) (TL) (TM) (TN) (TO) (TP) (TQ) (TR) (TS) (TT) (TU) (TV) (TW) (TX) (TY) (TZ) (UA) (UB) (UC) (UD) (UE) (UF) (UG) (UH) (UI) (UJ) (UK) (UL) (UM) (UN) (UO) (UP) (UQ) (UR) (US) (UT) (UU) (UV) (UW) (UX) (UY) (UZ) (VA) (VB) (VC) (VD) (VE) (VF) (VG) (VH) (VI) (VJ) (VK) (VL) (VM) (VN) (VO) (VP) (VQ) (VR) (VS) (VT) (VU) (VV) (VW) (VX) (VY) (VZ) (WA) (WB) (WC) (WD) (WE) (WF) (WG) (WH) (WI) (WJ) (WK) (WL) (WM) (WN) (WO) (WP) (WQ) (WR) (WS) (WT) (WU) (WV) (WW) (WX) (WY) (WZ) (XA) (XB) (XC) (XD) (XE) (XF) (XG) (XH) (XI) (XJ) (XK) (XL) (XM) (XN) (XO) (XP) (XQ) (XR) (XS) (XT) (XU) (XV) (XW) (XX) (XY) (XZ) (YA) (YB) (YC) (YD) (YE) (YF) (YG) (YH) (YI) (YJ) (YK) (YL) (YM) (YN) (YO) (YP) (YQ) (YR) (YS) (YT) (YU) (YV) (YW) (YX) (YY) (YZ) (ZA) (ZB) (ZC) (ZD) (ZE) (ZF) (ZG) (ZH) (ZI) (ZJ) (ZK) (ZL) (ZM) (ZN) (ZO) (ZP) (ZQ) (ZR) (ZS) (ZT) (ZU) (ZV) (ZW) (ZX) (ZY) (ZZ)

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S holds key to Bond's future

GOLF

Rafferty leaves no scent for distant pack in its pursuit

FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT IN MALMO

RONAN Rafferty achieved a first double and a double first here yesterday, winning the PLM Open by four strokes. It was the Irishman's second victory in Sweden following his capture of the Scandinavian Enterprise Open in Stockholm last year and in recording his first success of 1990 he trod an unfamiliar path by leading from start to finish in a European tour event. Only once before has Rafferty taken first prize after leading from the opening round, in the Volvo Open of 1982, his first professional season.

Rafferty, who had begun with a record-equaling 64 at Bokskogen, had a final round of 69 to total 270, 18 under par, and earn £58,330. Vijay Singh, of Fiji, Fred Couples, of the United States, and Rodger Davis, of Australia, all shot 65 in an unavailing chase. Bern-

SCORES FROM MALMO

198 and 1990 (lowest scores) 64: 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 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Selectors out on a suspect limb in picking Cram

By DAVID POWELL, ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

IGNORING the hard evidence, Britain's athletics selectors yesterday announced that the proud reputation of British middle-distance running would be defended in part at the European championships in Split in three weeks' time by two men whose form and fitness are open to question.

Steve Cram, who has not won a significant race for a year, nor an international championship medal for four years, was named for the 1,500 metres, in which he will be seeking a third successive European title. Cram, the mile world record holder, has been chosen ahead of athletes with stronger claims, in particular Tony Morrell and Matthew Yates.

In a court-house, the selectors would not have had a leg to stand on which, literally, is akin to the problem the two athletes at the centre of the controversy have had. Cram has been out of action with an Achilles tendon injury and Yates, who was picked for the 800 metres instead of the event at which he has performed better this season, has been hobbling with sore thighs.

The generosity towards Cram is, at best, a gesture in appreciation of glories past combined with outrageous hope: Yates's inclusion can be attributed to a selectorial howler: unbeknown to the panel, he has not achieved the qualifying time.

Six British athletes have run faster than Cram this summer. He has recorded a moderate 3min 38.3sec and that was before his Achilles trouble flared. When proof was needed that his training had picked up, it was not forthcoming: he stood down from Saturday's Panasonic AAA championship at the Alexander Stadium, Birmingham, a victim of gastroenteritis.

Cram's withdrawals this season — the Northern championships and the Goodwill Games before these championships — leave his account in debit, but the selectors are banking on him having a little bit put by. "We know this man, at his best, is capable of a medal," Frank Dick, one of the seven selectors, said.

Where is the evidence, though, that he will be at his best? "His training marks," Dick said. Presumably he is the first athlete to be selected by Britain on training performances. "See [Sebastian Coe], was in big trouble going into the Olympics in 1984 [when he won the 1,500 metres] and I have got the same faith in Steve Cram," Dick added. So had all the selectors: not so much a Split decision as a unanimous one.

Of course, Cram should have been given every chance to take his fitness to a wider audience; there are another 11 days before entries have to be submitted and ample meetings from which to choose. Finding the right one is the task confronting Yates.

If his father-coach, Mike Yates, was surprised at the news — "I am pleased it has happened but amazed" — that was nothing compared to the bemused looks among selectors when they were told from the floor of the press conference, staged to announce the team, that Yates had not run the qualifying time. Ironically, his 1,500 metres time, 3min 35.15sec, was not only

within the qualifying time but a fair case for the place awarded to Cram.

The 800 metres time needed is 1min 47.00sec and Stan Greenberg, the statistician whose figures the selectors work from, credited Yates with an erroneous 1min 46.62sec. "We have slipped up," Greenberg admitted. In five races at the distance since winning the Commonwealth bronze medal in January, he has been on the wrong side of 1min 47sec every time.

There is no doubting his potential. Dick regards him as "world class" and David Moorcroft described him at the weekend as the greatest developing British middle-distance talent since Cram and Peter Elliott. He manfully justified his unexpected Commonwealth Games place and will have to do so again if the selectors are to say "We told you so."

Always assuming that Yates, aged 21, gets his qualifying time: he withdrew from the AAA championships because an over-zealous masseur left him with sore thighs. "I am concerned about his getting over this injury," Yates senior said. "I think it will be three or four days before he runs properly."

Steve Heard, who had seemed certain of the place, was scathing in his criticism. The facts speak well enough — five times inside the qualifying time that Yates has yet to manage — but Heard added: "It's an appalling decision. They wanted to pick Yates and they have looked along the line, seen me standing there, and said: 'We can bump him out'."

"Cram should not have been picked. They should have left the third place open and set up a race somewhere for Cram, Morrell and Yates. They could have picked the first across the line and made no allowance for excuses about gastroenteritis, tender quads or someone being pushed out of the way."

In another selectorial farago, the triple jumpers, Jonathan Edwards and Vernon Samuel, were selected, pending their ability to achieve a qualifying mark, while Lawrence Lynch, a 400 metres hurdler who twice came within a few hundredths of a second of the necessary time at the trials, was not. The selectors changed their minds about Lynch after hearing from the press.

Lindford Christie is in both sprints, though he has run few sprints this season. That decision was made easy by Ade Mafe's failure to make the final in Birmingham. And Derek Redmond, the British record holder, will run the 400 metres, provided he keeps away from the discs. He was reported to be out for the season but, according to Dick, should be back this week. "He irritated an Achilles tendon dancing at a disco in basketball boots," Dick said. Cram's Achilles trouble, one assumes, was strictly business-induced.

Reserves: 100m: Adam, 200m: M Ross (Birmingham), 400m: Sanders, 800m: S Heard (Wolverhampton and Bilton), 1,500m: A Morrell (Wolverhampton and Bilton), 3,000m: J Richards (Cornwall), 110m hurdles: D Nelson (Wolverhampton and Bilton), 400m hurdles: J Bradstock (Borough of Enfield), 4 x 400m relay: M Thomas (Birmingham), J Drake (Birmingham), T Bennett (Team Solent), 100m: M Kyles (Cardiff), 200m: J Jacobs, 400m: D Miles (Birmingham), 800m: M Edwards (Essex), 4 x 400m relay: K Sugden (Stretford), 4 x 400m relay: K Sugden, P Leigh (Stretford and North Herts).

finished on the inside of the track with half a lap to go. Steve Halliday ended up there with him, both athletes accusing each other of rough house tactics, while Mark Rowland took the official blame and was disqualified. Morrell appeared to cuff Halliday and the BAAB said yesterday that it had instructed Les Jones, its European championships team manager, to "speak forcibly to the athlete and issue

him with a warning."

But there was also a red card for Morrell. He was named only as reserve for the European championships, while Steve Cram was given the vacant place alongside Elliott and Neil Horsfield, the trial winner. The BAAB spokesman, Tony Ward, said the incident "played no part in selection". Morrell's reaction to his omission was: "They must be mad."

TEAM FOR SPLIT

Men: 100m: L Christie (Team Solent), J Regis (Belgrave), D Bradstock (Birmingham), 200m: Regis, Christie, M Adam (Solent), 400m: S Heard (Wolverhampton and Bilton), 800m: D Edwards (Essex), A Williams (Essex), 1,500m: A Morrell (Wolverhampton and Bilton), 3,000m: J Richards (Cornwall), 110m hurdles: D Nelson (Wolverhampton and Bilton), 400m hurdles: J Bradstock (Borough of Enfield), 4 x 400m relay: M Thomas (Birmingham), J Drake (Birmingham), T Bennett (Team Solent), 100m: M Kyles (Cardiff), 200m: J Jacobs, 400m: D Miles (Birmingham), 800m: M Edwards (Essex), 4 x 400m relay: K Sugden (Stretford), 4 x 400m relay: K Sugden, P Leigh (Stretford and North Herts).

Women: 100m: L Christie (Team Solent), J Regis (Belgrave), D Bradstock (Birmingham), 200m: Regis, Christie, M Adam (Solent), 400m: S Heard (Wolverhampton and Bilton), 800m: D Edwards (Essex), A Williams (Essex), 1,500m: A Morrell (Wolverhampton and Bilton), 3,000m: J Richards (Cornwall), 110m hurdles: D Nelson (Wolverhampton and Bilton), 400m hurdles: J Bradstock (Borough of Enfield), 4 x 400m relay: M Thomas (Birmingham), J Drake (Birmingham), T Bennett (Team Solent), 100m: M Kyles (Cardiff), 200m: J Jacobs, 400m: D Miles (Birmingham), 800m: M Edwards (Essex), 4 x 400m relay: K Sugden (Stretford), 4 x 400m relay: K Sugden, P Leigh (Stretford and North Herts).

Morrell is made to pay for his sins

TONY Morrell, second only to Peter Elliott in this season's British rankings for the mile and 1,500 metres, is to receive what was termed yesterday "a yellow card" from the British Amateur Athletic Board (BAAB) for his churlish behaviour at the AAA championships at the Alexander Stadium, Birmingham on Saturday (David Powell writes).

Morrell's 1,500 metres final finished on the inside of the track with half a lap to go. Steve Halliday ended up there with him, both athletes accusing each other of rough house tactics, while Mark Rowland took the official blame and was disqualified. Morrell appeared to cuff Halliday and the BAAB said yesterday that it had instructed Les Jones, its European championships team manager, to "speak forcibly to the athlete and issue

him with a warning."

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In the swing: Alfredsson on her way to sudden-death success at Woburn yesterday

Rookie potential bears fruit for Alfredsson

By MITCHELL PLATTS, GOLF CORRESPONDENT

HELEN Alfredsson, of Sweden, won the Westabix British Women's Open when she overcame Jane Hill, of Zimbabwe, at the fourth extra hole of a sudden death final on the Woburn Golf and Country Club yesterday.

Hill had caught Alfredsson (73) on 288, which is four under par, with a wonderful final round of 68 but she brought about her own downfall when her approach to the 16th found the trees and the Swede won the £20,000 first prize with a par four by holing from four feet.

For Alfredsson, aged 25, the Rookie of the Year last season, it was her maiden success as a professional. "To stand there and actually have a four footer for this championship is something you dream of," she said. "Winning is what matters. It is what we are out here to do. Who remembers the runners-up?"

Hill, too, was seeking her first victory following five years on the Tour although she can draw much consolation in defeat. She has on only three occasions finished in the leading ten so this is by far and away her best performance. She is entitled to kick

herself for leaving short a putt of eight feet for a winning birdie on the third extra hole but otherwise her two closing rounds of 69 and 68 will galvanise her in the future.

Alfredsson paired with the more experienced Marie-Laure de Lorenzi, could not have made a better start. She made a birdie at the first whereas Lorenzi took seven after pulling her approach out of bounds.

Lorenzi was unable to counter-attack and Alfredsson stayed top of the leaderboard. She made another birdie at the seventh and gave away only two shots, at the 9th and 13th.

In contrast, Hill took an adventurous route and it was an approach which worked well because the Malawi-born golfer is oozing with confidence after working hard on the practice range with Eddie Ward, the brother of the former Ryder Cup player Charlie. She was never troubled by the claustrophobic feeling which overcomes some players on this excellent tree-lined course.

While Hill might have been compelled to chip and putt several times to keep her score intact, she played some outstanding shots in a round which included seven birdies

and three in a row from the 13th. Her eight iron to four feet at the eighth and nine iron to six feet at the 15th were good examples.

Hill, the daughter-in-law of football's Jimmy Hill, holed from ten feet at the 16th to save par and she provided ample evidence of her skill by hooking a two iron around a tree at the next to once again extricate herself from a difficult situation.

Kitrina Douglas failed to sustain her challenge, finishing with a 76, and Laura Davies, with six birdies in a 70, caught her for a share of third place along with Dana Lofland (73), of the United States.

LEADING FINAL SCORES: (68 and the lowest round) 288: H Alfredsson (Swe) 70, 71, 74, 73 won play-off at fourth extra hole; Jane Hill (Zim) 72, 74, 69, 68, 291; L Davies 75, 73, 70, 70; D Lofland (USA) 72, 70, 73, 73; K Douglas 69, 71, 75, 76, 285; M de Lorenzi (F) 72, 70, 73, 73; M de Lorenzi (F) 72, 70, 73, 73, 292; D Bernard 75, 70, 73, 74, 286; P Ben (USA) 70, 74, 77, 74, 285; A Shapcott 73, 74, 76, 73, 292; C Duffy 76, 74, 74, 73; M Hill 76, 76, 74, 73; S Strachan 70, 71, 71, 78, 300; D Hutton (Aus) 77, 76, 74, 73; J Cornish 74, 75, 76, 75; T Luckhurst (USA) 74, 72, 76, 72.

denotes amateur

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Navet defies own forecast for world title

FROM JENNY MACARTHUR IN STOCKHOLM

AT THE beginning of the year, Eric Navet thought he had "no chance" of competing here with his French-bred stallion, Quito de Baussy. Yesterday, he became the world show jumping champion after an outstanding display of horsemanship in the dramatic four-horse final.

John Whitaker, of Britain, the European champion and world cup winner, was widely tipped to take this title with Henderson Milton, but he made two expensive mistakes on the French horse, Morgat, and had to be content with the silver medal.

In a superb result for France, who on Thursday won the world team championship, Hubert Bourdy took the bronze medal, his worst score coming, ironically, on Navet's horse. It is the first time two riders from the same country have appeared in the final since David Broome and Harvey Smith in 1970, when they also finished first and third.

Navet, aged 31, who works with his father, Alain, a former international show jumper, on his stud in Normandy, found it difficult to take in his victory yesterday. The world championships had not even crossed his mind until two months ago.

He had thought that Quito de Baussy, a son of Jalisco B, the great show jumping stallion, was too inexperienced for a championship. "He is only eight and I have only jumped him in a few competitions this year in between his stud duties," he said.

One of those competitions was the Lucerne grand prix in May, which he won convincingly. Soon afterwards two of the French horses in contention for Stockholm went lame and Navet found himself being groomed for the team.

Although the formula for yesterday's final, in which all four finalists have to ride each other's horses, has been described as "a bit of a lottery" by Whitaker, Navet's riding left no one in any doubt that the best rider on the day had won. A competition to find the champion horse would have gone to the Gem

Twist, ridden by Greg Best, of the United States, with Henderson Milton second.

Navet, who last rode on a championship team at the 1984 Olympic Games, is used to riding different horses on his father's stud. Ironically, the only four jumping penalties he incurred yesterday came on his own horse. The stallion hit the last part of the treble. His compatriot, Bourdy, and Whitaker both had clear rounds on their own horses. Best, an economics graduate from Pennsylvania, had four faults on Gem Twist.

At the start of the fourth and final round Navet's score was 4.50 points — the same faults having been incurred on Henderson Milton. Whitaker was on 12 points after riding Bourdy's Morgat too fast into the treble. Bourdy was on 16 and Best had 20 points.

The only chance for Whitaker to move ahead of Navet was if the Frenchman had two fences down and Whitaker went clear. Navet, however, underlined his cool match temperament with another beautifully judged clear round. After looking up to the scoreboard for confirmation of his clear round he punched the air.

Whitaker, retaining his usual composure in what must have been a bitterly disappointing moment — unlike Navet he had had four years to work towards these championships — confirmed his silver medal with a clear round on Gem Twist.

Bourdy retained the bronze medal position.

Afterwards the two Frenchmen and Best singled out Milton as the horse they had most enjoyed riding. When Best was asked about the eight faults he incurred on Milton at the treble, he said: "I should have ridden him more aggressively ... but for me riding Milton was a bit like having a date with the most beautiful woman in the world — you find yourself tripping over your feet."

RESULTS: 1, E Navet (Fr), Maitland Cuts de Baussy, 4.50pts; 2, J Whitaker (GB), Henderson Milton, 12; 3, H Bourdy (Fr), Morgat, 20; 4, G Best (USA), Gem Twist, 24.

Aarts holds on to take world title

AD AARTS, a riding instructor at the Dutch equestrian school, held on to a slender lead with his team of Dutch warmbloods, to become the world carriage driving champion here on Saturday (Jenny MacArthur writes).

With none of the overnight leaders incurring any penalties in the final phase, the obstacle driving, Tomas Eriksson, of Sweden, retained the silver medal position and Jozsef Bozsik, the Hungarian, took the bronze medal. George Bowman, the British national champion, was fifth.

With the Dutch, Swedes and Hungarians repeating their first three places respectively in the team competition, the only drama in the final occurred when Britain's Peter Munt was eliminated for an error of course which dropped the team from fifth to eighth place.

RESULTS: Individual: 1, A Aarts, (Neth), 131.2; 2, T Eriksson (Swe), 131.4; 3, J Bozsik (Hun), 131.6; 4, C von Saldern (Ger), 140.2; 5, G Bowman (GB), 136.0; 6, J Bozsik (Hun), 140.2; 7, J Bozsik (Hun), 140.2; 8, J Bozsik (Hun), 140.2; 9, J Bozsik (Hun), 140.2; 10, J Bozsik (Hun), 140.2; 11, J Bozsik (Hun), 140.2; 12, J Bozsik (Hun), 140.2; 13, J Bozsik (Hun), 140.2; 14, J Bozsik (Hun), 140.2; 15, J Bozsik (Hun), 140.2; 16, J Bozsik (Hun), 140.2; 17, J Bozsik (Hun), 140.2; 18, J Bozsik (Hun), 140.2; 19, J Bozsik (Hun), 140.2; 20, J Bozsik (Hun), 140.2; 21, J Bozsik (Hun), 140.2; 22, J Bozsik (Hun), 140.2; 23, J Bozsik (Hun), 140.2; 24, J Bozsik (Hun), 140.2; 25, J Bozsik (Hun), 140.2; 26, J Bozsik (Hun), 140.2; 27, J Bozsik (Hun), 140.2; 28, J Bozsik (Hun), 140.2; 29, J Bozsik (Hun), 140.2; 30, J Bozsik (Hun), 140.2; 31, J Bozsik (Hun), 140.2; 32, J Bozsik (Hun), 140.2; 33, J Bozsik (Hun), 140.2; 34, J Bozsik (Hun), 140.2; 35, J Bozsik (Hun), 140.2; 36, J Bozsik (Hun), 140.2; 37, J Bozsik (Hun), 140.2; 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